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L. B. Shinney

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH,

PERSONAL AND DESCRIPTIVE,

OF

SYLVANUS B. PHINNEY,

OF BARNSTABLE, MASS.,

ON HIS EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY,

27, 1888.

COLONY RECORDS BY
FRIENDS.

BOSTON:
RAND AVERY COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1888.

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RESIDENCE OF S. B. PHINNEY.

INTRODUCTORY LETTER.

ROXBURY, Sept. 26, 1888.

MY DEAR MAJOR PHINNEY, — I am very glad to hear that, while you are strong and well, something is to be published which we can call your "memoirs," or your "contributions to the history of our time." Certainly your outlook upon that history has been a very curious one; and when the account of the nineteenth century in New England is made up, just what will be needed are such notes as you are able to give, with regard to the marvellous changes which have passed over New England since the year in which you were born.

I am glad to be permitted to say, in some part of the book, that some of my earliest happy associations are connected with you. I can remember, — what perhaps you do not remember, — what wonder and pleasure I had in the walks in Boston, between the head of School Street and the corner of State and Congress Street, when my little hand reached up to take your hand, and when I should not have been permitted to stray into the streets alone. Indeed, my first association with a world larger than the nursery is connected with "Sylvanus," as we used to call you in those days; and from that hour to this, the name "Sylvanus," and, strange to say, the name "Sylvester," has always been to me a pleasant name. I owe it to you, that I have always tried to make out the popes of the name of Sylvester a better series of popes than the general series which surrounded them. If any of them take any comfort from my good opinion, they owe it to you.

I was glad to hear you say that your recollections of the old "Advertiser" office were pleasant. My father was a man

of his time; indeed, in many respects he led the men of his time, when they did not know that he was leading them. But he had an attachment to the best of the old systems. In particular, he always believed in the system of apprenticeship. I have heard him say a hundred times that he wanted to have two or three apprentices in his office. "They are always loyal," he said; and that is true. The apprentices in his employ have in many instances, notably in your own, grown up to be leaders of the society in which they lived, honorable and respected men. He always took a personal interest in their fortunes, and in their after-life would speak proudly of their having begun their training for life in his office.

It would be to go back a few years before you were in the office, to tell the story which my mother was fond of telling, of the work in which the "Advertiser's" report of the Constitutional Convention of 1820 was finished. Mr. Webster, Judge Story, Mr. Pickering, and other older men, leaders of the convention, used to meet every evening, after the day's work, in my mother's little parlor, in the house on Tremont Street, where the new extension of the Parker House now stands. My father was a member of the convention, and practically was its reporter. They would write out and revise their speeches there, and the apprentices from the office would be in waiting to receive the slips of copy in the evening. I have heard her say that she had rocked the cradle with the baby in it, while she wrote from the dictation of one or other of the gentlemen whom I have named. The boys waiting for copy would sit at one side, with some book which she had given them for their entertainment. When the whole was over, and the convention record was printed as a volume, she made a plum-cake for the office, and frosted it, and dressed it with the old-fashioned cockle-shells which you will remember as favorites among the "sugar-plums" of that day. But she took out the printed mottoes which came from the confectioners, and substituted passages from the speeches of the leaders of the convention. This cake was sent down to the office, to make a pleasant wind-up for the

tediousness of the long "waits" as the daily reports went into type.

In after-days, our home associations with Barnstable were all connected with yourself. I dare say you have forgotten, but I have not, that you and Mrs. Phinney interested yourselves in the ladies' movement for the completion of Bunker Hill Monument, which began, I think, about the year 1835. But indeed, my dear Major Phinney, you know perfectly well, though you will be too modest to say so, that you have interested yourself in every good thing which has been done in the Old Colony from the time when the English took you as a prisoner down to this present day.

Believe me

Very truly and affectionately yours,

EDWARD E. HALE.

PREFACE.

ACCORDING to an old legend, there was said to be a fountain somewhere in the New World, that would impart perpetual youth to all who should drink of its waters. An old Spaniard set off in search of the same. It was supposed to exist in one of the Bahama Islands. In the search he accidentally discovered the coast of Florida, which received its name from the abundance of flowers with which its forests were adorned. There is a great art in knowing how to make our life, as it advances, more joyous and serene. The old Norse vigor of our ancestors came largely in this way. Age is the period for rest, retrospection. In the library of Harvard College, with its more than three hundred thousand volumes, our attention has been repeatedly called to the fact of the large number of biographies and autobiographies of distinguished individuals. None are read with greater avidity than those of self-made men, who have risen to greatness without even knowing or caring for greatness, — men who have dared to speak and act according to their honest convictions, without the fear or favor of others. While, in many cases, histories and biographies, written many years after the events have taken place, are full of errors and mis-statements, and therefore pushed aside, what has taken place and been recorded under one's own eye is eagerly sought after.

During the long and eventful life of our distinguished fellow-citizen, there are so many things of the greatest interest to the public, that it is difficult to know where to begin or to leave off.

As a journalist, he was deservedly among the first. As a politician, he has done more to shape the opinions of this

section of the State than perhaps any other resident on the Cape for the last half-century; and he has held positions of the highest trust and influence. He has been president and director of a score of different organizations, such as banks and railroads, and represented the people in the Constitutional Convention in 1853; has been on committees of high importance at Washington, and had immediate interviews with Presidents and highest officials of the land.

During the recent war of the Rebellion he was always distinctly heard on the side of Union, loyalty, and humanity. His residence, grounds, and surroundings are in perfect taste and accord with the uniform cheer and hospitality which reigns within his delightful home. In the church he has been a pillar of strength, — giving liberally, not only of his time and sympathy, but of his money. He has been the prime mover in organizing the Cape Cod Conference of Unitarian and other Liberal Christian churches in this section of the Old Colony, and been continued as its president for the past twenty years.

A self-made man, never dismayed by obstacles, and he has never been known to show the "white feather." As a critic his pen has at times been cutting, no doubt, but he has met the sharpest darts of his foes with the utmost equanimity and charity. What might seem fulsome, in this connection, to say of many another, in *his* case is simply justly his due. What all men say of him, irrespective of party or social position, must be true. "Vox populi, vox Dei."

In these days of transition and party revolution, it is refreshing to know, here and there, of a man who has stood firm to the associations and established rules of his early manhood; modifying and changing ever so much, it may be, his methods, yet progressing ever in the line of his deepest convictions and honest opinions from the very first. His colors once nailed to the mast-head, you always know where to find such a man. You may call him a Democrat of the old school, but you will find him a pioneer and honored leader with the new. None more zealous, in whatever party

organization, in furthering the cause of human rights and liberties.

In closing this brief and imperfect sketch, let me add simply Jean Paul's Richter's benediction: "May your life glide serenely; but if storms must convulse, or clouds darken, may there be no more clouds than may glitter in the sunlight, and no storms which the rainbow may not encircle; and may the Veiled One of heaven watch over your steps, and bring us to meet where clouds shall cease to darken, and storms to convulse."

A. S. NICKERSON.

BIOGRAPHICAL

SKETCH OF SYLVANUS B. PHINNEY.

MAJOR SYLVANUS BOURNE PHINNEY was born in Barnstable, Oct. 27, 1808, in the building now occupied by the Sturgis Library. He is a Democrat, his first vote having been cast for Andrew Jackson; seventeen years president and twenty-five years a director of the Hyannis National and Yarmouth Banks; for many years secretary of the Barnstable Savings Institution, in the days of its prosperity, and in 1870 chosen president of the Hyannis Savings Bank; was commissioned by Gov. Levi Lincoln as major of the First Regiment Massachusetts Militia, at the early age of twenty-two years, and served in the regimental reviews at Sandwich and Falmouth in 1832 and 1833; represented the town of Chatham in the Constitutional Convention of 1853; was the Democratic candidate for Congress, and councillor of the First District, and represented the First District in the Democratic National Conventions of 1844, 1853, and 1857, and, upon a vacancy existing, received a majority of the votes of the State Senate for councillor. The official returns of votes for councillor in 1882 gave S. B. Phinney 9,922, being the largest Democratic vote ever before cast in the First District. He was appointed collector of the District of Barnstable by President Polk, and held that office under the administrations of Presidents Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, and Johnson. During that time he disbursed for the Government hundreds of thousands of dollars to the fishermen of Cape Cod, under the Cod Fishing Bounty Act of 1819; was instrumental in procuring from Congress an appropriation of $30,000 for

building the Custom House and Post Office at Barnstable; and raised by subscription a sufficient amount of money for purchasing the grounds and building the Agricultural Hall (Hon. William Sturgis sending him a check for $1,000 to aid him in the work); was for some years president of the Barnstable County Agricultural Society, and represented the society twelve years at the State Board of Agriculture.

During the war of the Rebellion he was appointed by Gov. John A. Andrew a member of the "Committee of One Hundred," and presented the Sandwich Guards, Company D, Third Regiment Massachusetts Battalion, with a costly flag, upon which was inscribed, "Our flag floats to-day not for party, but for country." Hon. William H. Osborne, in his History of the Twenty-ninth Regiment, speaks of his unwavering fidelity to the Union, and his determination to sustain the National Administration in its efforts to crush out treason and rebellion; and that the principal editorial column of his paper was headed by these familiar lines: —

> "And this be our motto, 'In God is our trust.'
> And the Star-spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
> O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

On visiting that regiment at Fortress Monroe, in March, 1862, Major Phinney was present at the memorable battle, which occurred on the sabbath, between the ironclads "Monitor" and "Merrimac."

When the Sandwich company was fully armed and equipped for service, it was joined by Major Phinney; and he was on the march with Major Chipman, with full ranks, through the streets of Boston, when the company embarked in the steamer for Fortress Monroe.

Before the close of the war with Great Britain, in 1814, Major Phinney was a passenger, with his father, on board a packet sloop commanded by Capt. Howes, between Barnstable and Boston, and taken a prisoner when the packet was fired into by the British frigate "Nymph," in Massachusetts Bay, and afterwards boarded and burned with her cargo. He has a cannon-ball fired by a British frigate during

the war, which was lodged upon the Bacon farm, near his own home.

Major Phinney received his education in our common schools, and at an early age served an apprenticeship as a printer in the office of the Hon. Nathan Hale, of the Boston "Daily Advertiser." He was present at the laying of the corner-stone of the Bunker-hill Monument at the time of the visit of Gen. Lafayette to Boston.

The "Barnstable Patriot" was founded by Major Phinney, the first number of which was published June 26, 1830. He continued as its editor and proprietor for nearly forty years. In 1832 he married Eliza Cordelia Hildreth, the daughter of Col. Jonathan Hildreth of Concord, Mass., by whom he has living three sons married, and one daughter. After his wife's death in July, 1865, he married in October, 1866, Lucia Green, the youngest daughter of Hon. Isaiah L. Green of Barnstable, who represented the Barnstable District in Congress and voted for the war of 1812.

Major Phinney is president of the Cape Cod (Unitarian) Conference, a position he has held for nearly twenty years, and has held for long years the office of vice-president of the New-England Agricultural Society. He was an early pioneer in the culture of the cranberry in Barnstable; and has a ten-acre lot of pine-trees planted from the seed thirty-five years ago, of large and heavy growth.

Major Phinney's apprenticeship with Nathan Hale having expired, he took charge of the "Barnstable Journal," the first number of which was published by N. S. Simpkins, Oct. 10, 1828. He continued in his employ until he established the "Barnstable Patriot" in June, 1830. As foreman in the "Journal" office during that time, he printed from stereotype plates two large editions of the English Reader. He is a member of Fraternal Lodge of Masons, and of the Boston Commandery Knights Templars. He was elected in 1875 a trustee of Humboldt (Iowa) College, and in 1883 appointed by Gov. Benjamin F. Butler to fill a vacancy on the Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity. Upon retiring from the office of collector of the port in 1861, he received from his

personal friends a valuable tea-service of silver plate, lined with gold. The presentation was made at the Custom House. The Boston press, in speaking of it, said that "We shall have to 'go ahead' a good deal faster than 'the law allows' to get within hailing distance of the Major, who builds all the railroads, improves the harbors, manages the agricultural interests, and, Atlas-like, upholds Cape Cod on his government-commissioned shoulders." During his long life he has not lost his interest and devotion to the principles of the Democratic party.

On the organization of the Cape Cod Central Railroad, he was chosen clerk of the company; and when the consolidation took place between this road and the Old Colony Railroad Company, in 1872, he presided at a large meeting of the directors and citizens, at Masonic Hall, Hyannis, at the presentation of a service of plate, by the directors and others, to Ephraim N. Winslow, superintendent of the Cape Cod road. The principal guests at the dinner were President Onslow Stearns, Hon. C. F. Choate, William W. Crapo, Col. J. T. Borden, Oliver Ames, S. N. Payson, George Marston, M. L. Lincoln, William Cobb, Amos Otis, Dr. Pineo, C. F. Swift, Dr. D. N. Stone furnishing a graceful poem. Upon the retirement of Hon. Nymphas Marston from the office of judge of probate, Major Phinney presided at a presentation of a service of plate to that gentleman.

In 1862 he was chosen, at a citizens' meeting of the town of Provincetown, to represent that town upon the subject of the Fishery Treaty at Washington, when a hearing was had by President Grant, the Secretary of State, Hon. Charles Sumner, and the Massachusetts delegation in Congress.

The biographical sketches which are furnished in the succeeding pages of this volume show that he has been largely identified with the business industries, as well as that of politics, of this section of the State, for over sixty years, and was, as early as July 9, 1853, notified by the Department of State at Washington, of the difficulties relating to the fisheries; the letter of Gov. Marcy following in another place.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

BEFORE giving in greater detail an account of the ancestry of Major Phinney, together with important historical references and documents preserved in Old Colony records, which cannot well be left out, so close is the connection of these events with our journalist of so many years, — these he has kindly permitted us to peruse, and publish if thought desirable, — we may call attention to one or two of the more important incidents or events in the treasury of useful information, which every lover of history will be glad to read: such as the "First Landing of the Pilgrims at Provincetown," and of the proposed erection of a monument there through his direct efforts and those of the Cape Cod Association; also a letter from John Adams, addressed to Hon. Isaiah L. Green, in December, 1808, which is highly characteristic of "the old man eloquent;" and the relic containing the original signature of Gov. Hancock. The book closes with his sketch containing his valedictory address, after a service of forty years with "The Patriot."

TIMOTHY PHINNEY.

TIMOTHY PHINNEY, the subject of this sketch, was the father of Major Phinney. George Phinney, Esq., a younger son, furnished in the columns of his paper, the Waltham "Free Press," an interesting account of his long life. He says: —

"On Friday, Sept. 28, 1883, there was a gathering of relatives and friends at the old burying-ground just west of the church on Meeting-house Hill, in Barnstable, Mass., to pay the last offices of respect over the mortal remains of one who, a century ago nearly, was born a short distance from this spot.

"He was born in Barnstable, June 13, 1784; was the son of Deacon Timothy and Temperance (Hinckley) Phinney, both of good old Pilgrim stock; on his father's side being a descendant of John Phinney, who came over from England to Plymouth some nine years after 'The Mayflower' touched our shores. His mother was one of the descendants of Thomas Hinckley of Barnstable, for years Governor of Plymouth Colony, and subsequently elevated to the same office after the annexation of Plymouth to Massachusetts Colony. During his long life, extending beyond fourscore years and ten, Deacon Phinney was prominent in civil and church affairs. He held for a time the office of high sheriff of Barnstable County, and was also chosen State senator. His grave and dignified bearing is still among the recollections of some now living, whose memories yet retain the picture of the high pulpit with its sounding-board, the church official seated below facing the audience, and the square pews, while they still hear in imagination the bang of the hinge-swinging wooden

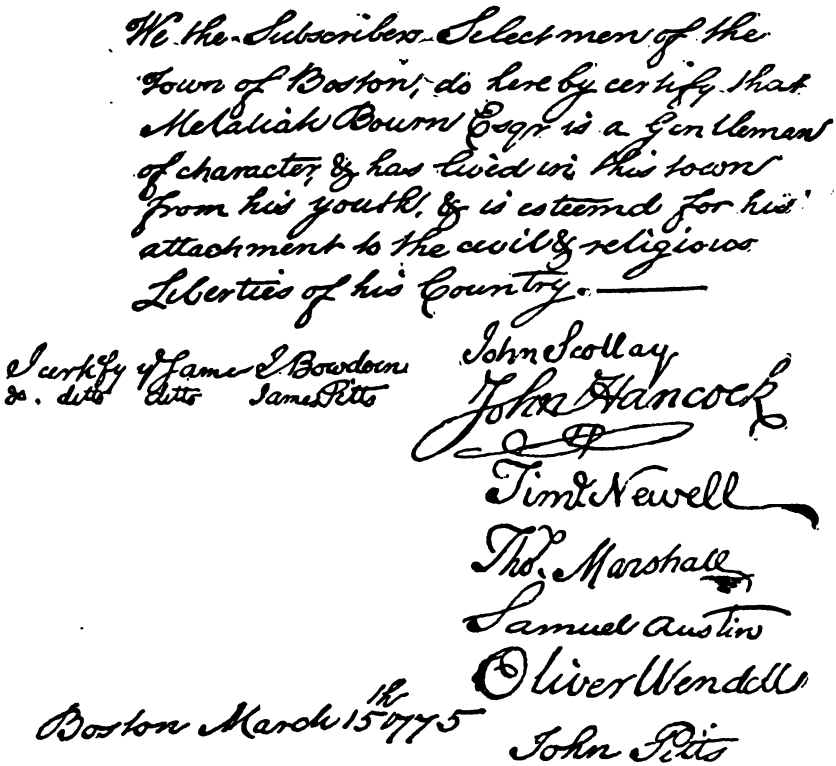
seats, raised for the convenience of a standing position during prayer. To him was given length of days, and the respect of his townsmen, which he held to the close of life.

"The birth of his son Timothy took place only about seven months following the evacuation, in November, 1783, by the British, of the last position held on our coast, and several years prior to the adoption of the present Constitution of the United States. It is only necessary to refer to these dates in order to realize the great age of one whose life, commencing near the close of the Revolutionary war, was prolonged to the present time, enabling him to note the unexampled stride in population and wealth which a century had brought about.

"Early in life Mr. Phinney married Olive Gorham Bourne of Barnstable; and from this union were born a large family of sons and daughters, four of whom only are now living, viz., S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, the oldest child; Mary Bourne, wife of Josiah Walcott of Roxbury; George Phinney of Waltham; and T. Warren Phinney of Bolinas, Cal. A devoted wife and mother, she was likewise a woman of marked character and decided religious principles."

AN INTERESTING RELIC.

ORIGINAL SIGNATURE OF GOV. HANCOCK, WHILE SELECTMAN OF BOSTON IN 1775.



THE foregoing is a remarkably well-executed fac-simile of an ancient document, which is especially interesting to the descendants of the Bourne family, presented to Major Phinney by Gustavus A. Hinckley, Esq., in March, 1887.

The perusal of documents to which Gov. Hancock appended his signature is always interesting to New Englanders, and this certificate was written and signed while he was a member of the honored Board of Selectmen of Boston.

Melatiah Bourne was born Nov. 14, 1722, baptized Oct. 4, 1724. He married Mary Bayard, an ancestor of the present distinguished Secretary of State, and niece of Gov. Bowdoin. His son, Capt. Sylvanus Bourne, was for many years American consul at Amsterdam; portraits of his children taken in that city are in possession of Major Phinney. His son Melatiah married Olive Gorham. Their children were, Melatiah, Sylvanus, and Olive, the latter the mother of Major Phinney.

The remains of Melatiah Bourne were entombed in the cemetery adjoining the Barnstable Unitarian Church. Our readers can judge of the high esteem in which he was held in Boston, as a merchant engaged in business there for many years, by the distinguished historical names attached to the certificate.

The other children of Melatiah were Sarah and Mary. He died after a long and painful illness, in September, 1778, aged fifty-six. His monument informs us, that he "was a gentleman who in public employ conducted himself with great reputation to himself and honor to his country; and in the more private walks of social life exhibited those virtues which have raised in the bosoms of those who knew him, a monument that shall exist when this stone shall be mouldered to its native dust. In him the Christian graces shone with peculiar lustre, and the plaudit of an approving conscience was the summit of his ambition.

> "Surely when men like these depart,
> The cause of virtue deeply feels the wound."

The preceding are surely interesting historic reminiscences, the publication of which seemed to be called for in connection with that of the certificate.

OLD MIDDLESEX AND THE OLD COLONY, 1881.

OLD MEN AND OLD FARMS. — LONGEVITY OF SOME OF ITS CITIZENS.

EDITOR OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

Dear Sir, — Your recent inquiries relating to the "Phinney farm" in Lexington, Mass., and the longevity of certain families in old Middlesex and Barnstable Counties, have led me to furnish such particulars as have come under my own observation. Fifty years ago the farm of Elias Phinney, Esq., of Lexington, in Middlesex County, was one of the most celebrated in this State. Mr. Phinney was the first to introduce among the farmers of New England the blooded stock, and distinguished himself as one of the best agriculturists. More than thirty years ago, the Barnstable County Society received some of his Jersey stock, which has proved so valuable in Eastern Massachusetts. For many years Mr. Phinney was a trustee of the State Agricultural Society. His farm was in the south part of Lexington, and brought by him into a high state of cultivation. His farm, fruit-trees, and stock attracted visitors from all parts of the country, so that his scientific and practical knowledge of husbandry exerted a wide influence over those engaged in that department of industry. He was among the earliest in this State to write and lecture upon the subject of agriculture, and many of his opinions are even now often quoted and adopted. In 1825 he published an interesting account of the battle of Lexington, in which he vindicated with great ability the claims of the town of Lexington against certain pretensions "set up by a few indiscreet men of Concord."

Mr. Phinney was appointed clerk of the Judicial Courts in the County of Middlesex, in 1831, by the recommendation of Chief-Justice Lemuel Shaw, which office he held until his death. Benjamin Phinney, his father, purchased of David Bent a farm in Lexington, of about a hundred acres, as early as 1786. He was then in feeble health, and soon after conveyed it to his son Elias, who was indefatigable in his labors to improve it. But few men did a greater work in improving agriculture in all its departments. As an evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by distinguished men of that day because of his devotion to agriculture and horticulture, let me mention one fact under my own observation. A few years before his death, and while he was attending court at Lowell, his house with all its contents, together with his barn containing his agricultural implements, were destroyed by fire. No sooner had the news reached the city of Boston, than Col. Marshall P. Wilder, Chief-Justice Shaw, and the Hons. Abbott and Amos Lawrence made up a purse of three thousand dollars, and sent him a check for that amount. This enabled him to re-build upon the old premises.

Benjamin Phinney lived to be ninety-nine years of age, and resided with his son Elias until his death. The brother of Benjamin, Deacon Timothy Phinney, resided in Barnstable, and lived to be ninety-three years of age. He held the office of sheriff, and represented this county in the State Senate. Deacon Phinney had a son Timothy (the father of S. B. Phinney), who married his second wife in Bridgeport, N. S., where he now resides. If he lives until the 13th of June next, he will be ninety-seven years of age. He enjoys good health, and within a few weeks has written his son to know if he cannot *procure a pension!* He says that during the war of 1812 he was mustered into a company at Barnstable to do military duty, and marched to Harwich and frequently to Hyannis and Falmouth, to defend those places against the attacks of British vessels. Afterwards he was taken a prisoner, with his son, on board the British frigate "Nymph," in Barnstable Bay, and the vessel burned. The papers were lost, the enrolment burnt, and as yet no pension has been procured.

The longevity of this family is somewhat remarkable. Nancy, one of the daughters of Deacon Phinney, married Deacon John Monroe of Barnstable. She died in January last, aged eighty-eight years. Deacon Monroe died in February previous, aged ninety-five years. His mother, Abigail Monroe, the eldest daughter of Jonathan Parker of Roxbury, Mass., was born Jan. 30, 1753, and died in Barnstable, May 1, 1844, aged ninety-one years. Deacon Monroe was generally and favorably known in this county as the treasurer of the Barnstable Savings Institution for more than forty years. George Phinney, Esq., a son of Timothy Phinney, a somewhat younger scion, emigrated to Middlesex County, and as editor and proprietor of the Waltham "Free Press" is doing good service in promoting the cause of agriculture through the columns of his paper. But you will excuse my prosy narrative. I was led to say this much for the readers of your excellent paper, at your suggestion, believing that some of them might be gratified to know how strong the ties that existed between old Middlesex and this section of the State.

S. B. PHINNEY.

BARNSTABLE, Jan. 24, 1881.

PERSONAL SKETCHES.

SAYS a correspondent in the Boston "Commonwealth" in September, 1882, "I have mentioned Major S. B. Phinney. He is still a landmark of no minor importance. From our earliest remembrance he was the one 'stalwart' Democrat of the town, ever present at conventions, ever to be consulted on important occasions, and ever to be rewarded with political favors if any were to fall worth taking. It will please many old friends to know that he is now, at the age of seventy-five, almost as active and sparkling as in his prime. Despite his strong political bias, the Major was ever a public-spirited citizen, interested in every thing that concerned the town or the Cape. In centennial, agricultural, railroad, or patriotic celebrations, he was ever put foremost; and no man can say that he did not discharge his duty to the fullest acceptance. When he disposed of the 'Patriot' newspaper, a few years ago, it was thought he had closed, for good, his political career; but it is said that even now his fellow Democrats have some doubts of the orthodoxy of those sent to conventions, unless the Major himself presents to the caucus the list of delegates. Barnstable's history could never be written without recording the services of this versatile editor, farmer, politician, and village Hampden; and his fame goes down to later generations, on a tablet in front of the custom-house, from which we learn, that, while it was commenced under the administration of James Guthrie, Secretary of the Treasury, it was finished under that of S. B. Phinney, Collector of Customs, thus deservedly uniting two worthy gentlemen in the same commemoration. The beautiful residence of Major Phinney occupies the site of the house of

Thomas Sturgis, a brother of Russell Sturgis the Boston merchant, and was formerly occupied by Capt. Ira Bursley, famous as the commander of a Boston line of merchantmen to Liverpool, and later of a New-York line to the same port. It would be difficult to find a more lovely spot, a more hospitable house, or inmates more possessed of old-time grace and kindness."

THE New-York "World" of the 27th April, 1885, in connection with the Bartholdi colossal statue of Liberty, then on its way from France, says, —

"A ringing letter comes from Major S. B. Phinney, of Cape Cod, enclosing a check for seventeen dollars and fifty cents, contributed by a few liberty-loving citizens. Mr. Phinney is an Old Colony patriot, and was present at the reception given to Gen. Lafayette, on the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone of the Bunker-hill Monument, in 1824.

"He comprehends the patriotic nature of the 'World's' efforts in behalf of the pedestal, and a vigorous spread of such healthy enthusiasm as this would soon complete the work. It was the spirit engendered at Bunker Hill, and nursed at Valley Forge, that levelled the Bastille, and gave king-craft that never-forgotten lesson, there is no true sovereignty but that of honest manhood.

"It was the liberty-loving race that sent us Lafayette, that now sends us this masterpiece of art wherewith to crown the gateway of our complete Republic."

SAYS the Boston "Post," Nov. 9, 1886, "Major Phinney came up from Barnstable to shake hands with President Cleveland yesterday.

"More than fifty years ago he came to Boston to shake hands with President Jackson.

"He gave at a public dinner, at that time, the following sentiment: —

"'President Jackson's visit to Boston. When the proclamation cast Daniel into the lions' den, no manner of hurt was found upon him. But when the era of good feeling caught the lion in Daniel's den, he like to have been killed with kindness.'

"Major Phinney has given his support to Democratic principles through all that time, — for forty years as editor of the Barnstable 'Patriot.' When Grover Cleveland was nominated for President, no one in South-eastern Massachusetts gave him a more zealous and able support than he."

ISAIAH L. GREEN.

ISAIAH LEWIS GREEN, of Barnstable, father-in-law of Major Phinney, was one of the most distinguished men of the Old Colony. He was the son of Rev. Joseph Green, and born in Barnstable, Dec. 28, 1761. He graduated at Harvard College in 1781; was elected a member of Congress from the Barnstable District in 1805–9, and again in 1811–13; and appointed collector of the port of Barnstable by President Madison in 1814, which office he held for nearly twenty-five years. He died in 1841, leaving a large family.

The Act of Congress, declaring war with Great Britain, for which Mr. Green voted, passed the House of Representatives by a majority of 79 to 49, and the United States Senate by a majority of 19 to 13. By the frequent impressment of our seamen, and the injury done our commerce by England, the war was considered unavoidable, and our State and National Governments were prepared to support it with their lives and fortunes; and Barnstable District

"*Resolved*, That the Hon. Isaiah L. Green, our Congressional representative, has done nobly, and deserves well of his country, and that he enjoys the confidence of his constituents: therefore

"*Resolved*, That we will support the Constitution and Government of the United States against the invasion of a foreign enemy, the intrigues of a domestic faction, or the usurpation of individual States; and that we have the fullest confidence in the wisdom, firmness, and patriotism of the President and Congress, of whose doings we cordially approve."

The Cape Cod historian, in reference to this war, says that

Isaac L. Green

at no time was the warmth of party feeling abated during the struggle. The Government sustained the Act of Congress, and was sustained by the able and determined support of Barnstable County, notwithstanding all the privations and inconveniences that the war occasioned. During a portion of the war the streets of Barnstable were filled with troops from every portion of the county. The daughter of Capt. Thomas Sturgis, who resided upon the homestead now occupied by Major Phinney, near the old church in Barnstable, presented one of the officers a beautiful regimental flag, with neat and patriotic sentiments. In this connection, the following letter of Mr. Green to Major-Gen. Dearborn of Boston, calling for assistance by the aid of flying artillery, will be read with interest.

OFFICIAL LETTER TO MAJOR-GEN. DEARBORN.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, BARNSTABLE,
June 21, 1814.

Sir, — I take the liberty to address you, and to state to you the exposed situation of this town and its vicinity to the depredations of the enemy, who are carrying on an unprincipled and disgraceful kind of warfare on our sea-coasts. We consider our danger much increased by the accumulation of foreign merchandise brought into this district, in consequence of the blockade, by neutral vessels. Within a few days a valuable prize has arrived, and her cargo is now storing here; add to this, a very large quantity of oil belonging to the United States, brought from Nantucket for greater safety, is now stored here.

We have no artillery, and our militia are not armed and equipped as they ought to be. The selectmen will address the Governor, requesting a supply of army and military stores, but we have no expectation that he will send any troops here. I have, therefore, as well in behalf of the public interest, as for the safety of the inhabitants, conceived it my duty to make you this representation, and to request that if there is any disposable force of the United States at your

command, a small detachment may be immediately sent on and stationed at this place. We conceive that as we are liable to be attacked at so many different points, it is believed that flying artillery would be the most eligible kind of force.

I am, sir, with much respect,

Your most obed't servt.,

ISAIAH L. GREEN, *Coll.*

Hon. MAJOR-GEN. DEARBORN, Boston.

AN OLD DOCUMENT.

LETTERS OF MARK AND REPRISAL.

IN a recent issue of the Boston "Post" [the "Patriot" says] is an interesting letter, written by Major S. B. Phinney, introducing an old document found among the papers of the late Isaiah L. Green, one of the most prominent men of our county in his time. His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were clergymen; and he was a graduate of Harvard College, but did not follow in the footsteps of his ancestors by adopting their profession. He was early in life elected to Congress, and on being succeeded there by the late Hon. John Reed, was appointed collector of this district by President Madison, his commission bearing date of March 4, 1814. He was the third collector of the district, having succeeded William Otis; and he was in turn succeeded by Hon. Henry Crocker in 1837. The portrait of Mr. Green, as well as that of Mr. Crocker, and others of their successors, have been procured by the present collector, and now adorn the walls of the collector's office at the Custom House. Mr. Green lived to be eighty years of age. He died in Cambridge. His eldest son, Dr. Joseph Green, died in New Jersey a little more than a year ago; another son, Isaiah L., died earlier in life, while studying law in the office of the late Judge Warren of New Bedford. Two children only of his family are now living: Hannah Russell Green, and his youngest daughter, Lucia G., the wife of Major S. B. Phinney.

[Correspondence of the "Boston Post."]

BARNSTABLE, Feb. 20, 1882.

THE enclosed letter, written by John Adams, has recently been found among the private papers of the late Isaiah L. Green of Barnstable, and will be read with interest by very

many of the readers of the "Post." Mr. Green represented this district in Congress as early as the year 1805, and gave his vote for the war of 1812. Congress had previously laid an embargo upon American vessels, and in no other section was there greater suffering than in the industries of Cape Cod. The fisheries was the vital, leading industry of Barnstable County; and the impressment of our seamen, and the injury done to our commerce, by Great Britain, was seriously felt throughout New England. It was the sailor's rights for which we were contending. Mr. Green conscientiously believed it to be the duty of our country to redress the wrongs of England; and although representing a district largely engaged in commercial pursuits, he believed it to be his duty, and did give his vote for the war, remarking at the same time to a member of the House of Representatives seated by his side, that "it had cost him his seat." He was not mistaken in the sentiments of his constituents, for John Reed succeeded him at the next congressional election, and continued to represent this district for nearly a quarter of a century. President Madison, however, did not forget the patriotism of Mr. Green, and manifested his regard for this gentleman, after hearing of his defeat, by causing him to be commissioned as collector of the port of Barnstable, which he continued to hold under various administrations for more than twenty years.

It was the younger Adams who had, in a great degree, the conducting of the negotiations, but it was the father who sent to Madison a very significant letter, in which he said he would continue the war indefinitely "rather than give up one iota of our rights to the fisheries." Eastern Massachusetts suffered by this war, in her commerce and fisheries, even more largely than under the fishing treaty so ingloriously entered into by our Government some eight years ago. Our capital, now as then, is largely employed in commercial pursuits. After the declaration of the war of 1812, there was scarcely a village in this county that could sustain itself in the fisheries; and our citizens built salt-works, and went into

the manufacture of salt by solar evaporation, which has been continued until within a few years. This, for the most part, was found an unprofitable investment, and the works are now nearly all destroyed. The policy which has been adopted by the Republican party, under the Treaty of Washington, has been almost as ruinous. It is clearly shown that we cannot successfully compete with the Provinces in free fish. The admission of free fish into all parts of our country has already built up an industry in the Provinces to the great detriment of our own; and those of our citizens who have not heretofore favored a protective policy have come to the conclusion that it is the duty of our Government to protect, at least, an industry so hazardous as that of the fisheries. Vessels not adapted to any other business have, in a great degree, been lost; and we are living on, hoping for a change in the administration, if not a change for the better.

I have been led to these remarks, Mr. Editor, by the letter of Mr. Adams, which has so recently come to light, and because it calls so forcibly to mind the sufferings of so large a number of her citizens who had their homes upon our shores, and were constantly exposed to the aggressions of the English fleet.

Congress may well give some of its attention to an industry so important as that of the fisheries. The annual products of the fisheries, in fish, oil, and bone, in Massachusetts alone, within a few years, amounted to near $17,000,000. And yet Congress, of late years, seems almost to have lost sight of this fact, by giving to the Provinces the rights and privileges so clearly belonging to our own citizens. John Adams clearly foresaw the difficulties we were to suffer, as early as 1808 when in correspondence with Mr. Green, and that a war would inevitably grow out of British aggressions. In 1807 a British man-of-war had poured a broadside into an American vessel, killing twenty men. The war finally came; the year 1812 was an eventful one. Another embargo was laid in April, and in June war was declared. In December the frigate "Constitution" captured the British frigate "Java," and in

June following the naval battle took place off Boston Harbor, between the United States frigate "Chesapeake," under command of Capt. James Lawrence, and the British frigate "Shannon," in which the "Chesapeake" was captured, and Capt. Lawrence mortally wounded. Not a few of the citizens of Cape Cod distinctly heard the guns during this engagement. The frequent landing upon our shores, and the reprisals levied upon the towns, were cause for the constant alarm which was felt. Many of the soldiers are living who continue to relate the trying scenes which "tried men's souls" in those trying times. The letter which follows has lain peacefully at rest for nearly seventy-five years. As it was written some six years before the burning of the Capitol at Washington, it is interesting as coming from so celebrated a statesman as John Adams.

Yours very truly,

S. B. PHINNEY.

LETTER OF JOHN ADAMS.

QUINCY, Dec. 9, 1808.

Sir: I received yesterday, from the Post office, under your frank, the nervous reply of Nine of our Representatives to certain Resolutions. Having read it with pleasure I thank you for your politeness in sending it to me. While it treats our State Legislature with all the respect it deserves, it is written with as much candor and moderation as perspicuity and energy. The facts are fairly stated, and the conclusions are so urgent that I know of but one answer that your antagonists can give, and that is, "Repeal the Embargo, let us arm our ships, give us Letters of Mark, and we will seek our fortune and fight our way. In the mean time build frigates as fast as you can to protect and assist us, and we will cheerfully pay Coast Rates, Stamp Duties, Land Taxes, and bear all other burthens the war may produce." If I had not known by fifty years experience the enormous Gullet of Party, I should scarcely have believed that a Majority of five hundred wise men of the East would have swallowed such Large lumps as that "in the Embargo Laws only we are to look for the cause of the public distress;" and that in their repeal we may look "for permanent relief."

But in a letter intended only to thank you for your civility I am not about to trouble you with political discussions of which I presume you have enough and to spare.

I am, Sir, respectfully your most humble servt.,

J. ADAMS.

The Hon. ISAIAH L. GREEN, Esq., Member of Congress.

VALUABLE HISTORY.

EDITOR BARNSTABLE JOURNAL.

Some twenty-four years ago I opened a correspondence with Amos Otis of Yarmouth, who was well versed in the history of Barnstable, and suggested to him the desirability of publishing weekly, in the columns of my paper, his ample store of historical knowledge, as "he seemed at that time to be so largely a link between the present and the past." He at first hesitated, remarking that such a publication would probably occupy a year or more. He finally consented to my proposition, and the deeply interesting and useful articles which he furnished extended over a much longer period than he anticipated, and he did not live to complete the history. I am now solicited by friends to republish this history, believing, as you have suggested, that it will be found of interest; the more so, as an intelligent gentleman of this town, who has given much time and research to the subject, and who is well qualified for the task, has under consideration a continuance and completion of the work, from the point to which Mr. Otis carried it, thus furnishing a complete biographical treasury of our ancient families not otherwise obtainable. I will furnish copies of his papers for publication, which I have carefully preserved, although it never occurred to me that I should live to see its revival an accomplished fact.

I enclose herewith his letter of the 15th of November, 1861, with No. 1 of his history, beginning with the family of Thomas Allyn. I have preserved carefully this history as originally furnished me by Mr. Otis. It is now the only *correct* copy in existence, and I have copyrighted it for republication. They will find it to their advantage to carefully preserve all the copies, as important historical information

relating to very many of the families of the town of Barnstable has been promised for publication, that this history may be carried forward to completion.

Respectfully yours, etc.,

S. B. PHINNEY.

BARNSTABLE, Dec. 26, 1886.

LETTER OF AMOS OTIS, THE HISTORIAN.

YARMOUTH, Nov. 15, 1861.

To S. B. PHINNEY.

For several years past, I have spent much of my leisure time in examining records and collecting materials for a history of my native town. Old age is "creeping on," and I find I have done little towards arranging the materials I have collected. There are more difficulties to be surmounted than the casual observer dreams of. Records have been destroyed, lost, mutilated; tradition is not to be relied on; and the truth can only be arrived at by diligent inquiry and comparison of various records and memorials of the past. The fact is, the writer of a local history finds himself environed with difficulties at every step in his progress, and is compelled to use such words as "perhaps" and "probably," much oftener than good taste would seem to require. If the reader would be satisfied with facts chronologically arranged, the task would not be so difficult; diligence and industry would accomplish it. But something more is required. A dull, monotonous array of facts and figures would soon tire and disgust all, excepting perhaps a few plodding antiquarians who are never happier than when poring over a black-letter manuscript. The page to be made readable must be enlivened with description, narratives, and personal anecdotes. When writing history, I often feel that I am in the condition of the children of Israel, when they were required by their Egyptian taskmasters to make bricks without straw. Three times I have written the first chapter of a history of the town of Barnstable, and three times have I thrown the manuscript

into the fire. Progressing at such a rate, my head will be whiter than it now is, before the last chapter is written.

My friends are constantly urging me to do something, and not let the materials I have collected be lost; and I have decided to write a series of "Family Sketches," like those of Mr. Deane, in his History of Scituate. These sketches, though far from being accurate, are the most interesting portion of his work. As a general rule, I do not intend that each number shall occupy more than a column and a half. To give a full history of some of the families, namely, that of Hinckley, Crocker, Otis, Lothrop, Bacon, and others, would require a volume. These will necessarily be longer; but a sketch of some of the families need occupy only a few paragraphs.

I shall write them in an alphabetical series, beginning with the Allyn family. That there will not be a thousand mistakes and omissions in each, I would not dare to affirm; but there is one thing I will venture to assert: I can point out more deficiencies in them than any other living man. I desire, however, that persons having additional information, or the means of correcting any error into which I may have fallen, would communicate the same. I presume there are many documents preserved in family archives which would afford me valuable aid in the work I have undertaken, and it would give me much satisfaction if the owners would loan me the same or furnish copies.

In giving a genealogical account of the families, nearly all the facts in relation to the history of the town will have to be given. In the Allyn family, I give some account of the original laying-out of the town; in the Lothrop family, a history of the First Church; and in other families where the ancestor was the leading man in any enterprise, the history of that work cannot well be omitted. In this manner nearly all the principal events in the history of the town will pass in review, and such consideration be given to them as time, space, or opportunity will admit.

I make no promises; I claim no immunity from criticism.

I may get tired, before writing one-half of the proposed sixty columns, and it may be that the publisher will get sick of his bargain, even before that time. To those who take no interest in genealogy, I have only one remark to make. My ancient friend and schoolmaster, Deacon Joseph Hawes, would often say he was a skiptic; that is, if he met with an article in a book or newspaper that did not please him, he "skipt over it."

I have one more suggestion to make. I would recommend to those who do take an interest in these articles, to cut them out and paste them into a scrap-book, leaving on each page a wide margin for corrections, additions, and notes. To those who take less interest in the matter, I would suggest that they cut out the article in relation to their own families, and paste at least the genealogical portion on the fly-leaf of their family Bibles; their grandchildren may take an interest in the subject, if they do not.

AMOS OTIS.

IMPORTANT LETTER

RELATING TO THE FISHERIES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON,
July 9, 1853.

S. B. PHINNEY, Esq.,

Collector of Customs, Barnstable, Mass.

Sir, — The President has learned with much surprise of the excitement that exists among our fellow-citizens who are interested in the fisheries off the coasts of British North America, and that they are apprehensive of molestation during the approaching fishing season. Relying confidently on your intelligence and activity, he is persuaded that you will use all the means in your power to diffuse a good understanding amongst those engaged in the fishing interest. You will warn them of the consequences of committing any unfriendly act during the progress of the pending negotiations, as any such act may postpone indefinitely the settlement of this vexatious question, and the result would be likely, in any event, to prove hazardous to themselves. Any armed resistance on the part of the fishing vessels, either singly or combined, would be an act of private hostility which can never receive any countenance from this Government.

You will omit nothing whatever that your knowledge of the circumstances may suggest, and which our good faith towards a power with which we are, and desire to remain, at peace, demands, to prevent any rash or illegal movements intended or calculated to violate our obligations towards a friendly foreign power and our colonial neighbors.

I have been directed by the President to invite your personal and prompt attention to this matter, and to assure you

that he places entire confidence in your active and judicious exertions to soothe the present irritation of popular feeling, excited in some instances, it is said, by unfounded reports of alleged violation of our national rights. Every good citizen should be solicitous to prevent any occurrence which may further excite that feeling. No violation of the Colonial local law should be attempted, and their civil authorities and other officers should have due respect paid to them within their jurisdiction.

In case of insult to the American flag, or injury to our fishermen, you will request them to transmit the particulars, properly substantiated, to the Department of State, instead of attempting to settle the difficulties themselves.

Our hardy and useful seamen may rest assured while engaged in their lawful avocations, all over the world, that no outrage or indignity which they may suffer will be permitted to go unnoticed, but that they will be protected to the utmost of its power by the Government of their country.

I am, sir, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WM. L. MARCY, *Secretary of State.*

SPEECH OF MAJOR PHINNEY.

AT a large meeting of the Barnstable County Democratic Club, at Hyannis, in May, 1885, to the toast of "The Fisheries of Cape Cod," President McLaughlin called upon Major S. B. Phinney to respond, the members rising to their feet and cheering him lustily. He spoke as follows: —

Mr. President and Fellow Democrats of Cape Cod, — It affords me great pleasure to meet so many of my Democratic friends here to-day, not only to celebrate a great Democratic victory, but to take part in the organization of the "Barnstable County Democratic Club." Its objects are for political and social purposes, but I may with propriety say we meet more particularly to look after the fishing and commercial interests of this section of South-eastern Massachusetts. In this important movement, Mr. President, we have the zealous co-operation of President Cleveland, who will stand by the fishermen to restore their rights against the ruinous policy of the Republican party. The fishery question with the citizens of Cape Cod is a vital one, and through your instrumentality, Mr. President, at a recent meeting of the Democratic County Committee at Sandwich, the following resolution was adopted. It contains the united sentiment of the Democracy of this county.

"*Resolved*, That this meeting, in view of the ruinous effects of the Treaty of Washington upon our fishing interests, and the repeal of the cod-fishery bounty under Republican rule, and by a Republican Congress, it is incumbent upon the Democratic party of Barnstable County to labor zealously with a Democratic Congress and a Democratic President to restore to the fishermen this branch of industry which has so

long been of great value to the commerce and marine of the country."

This resolution was a disturbing element, as it fully exposed the Republican party in the blow which was directly aimed at the most important industry of our citizens in the repeal of the fishing bounty, and the ruinous policy of the Treaty of Washington. Our sailors have valiantly stood by the American flag on the land and on the sea for one hundred years, and no sooner had the Republican party succeeded to power, and got the control of every department of the Federal Government, than the bounty to fishermen was at once taken from them, and the greatest blunder of this or any other government was perpetrated in enacting a clause in the Treaty of Washington, which has done so much to sap the industry of Cape Cod in the destruction of the cod-fishery. This treaty, as Mr. Secretary Fish had told us, had become an administration measure. At a hearing before a Congressional committee the statistics showed that the annual receipts in Massachusetts alone, of fish, oil, and bone, amounted to more than $17,000,000! In every treaty which has been made, the Republicans have treated this subject as of little or no importance, and finally we were swindled out of $5,500,000. And this was being done while Massachusetts was furnishing twenty-five thousand men for the navy of the United States. Everybody knows that our fishermen were indispensable to the safety of our government. Gen. Sherman recognized their importance when he said that it was a Cape Cod fisherman whose knowledge of the Southern coast had saved his entire fleet from shipwreck in the gale off Newbern, N. C. The war of 1812 crippled the fisheries to such an extent that a Democratic Congress relieved the fishermen by the bounty act, which was passed as early as 1819. This was continued until repealed by the Republicans. Barnstable County largely depended upon her fisheries and the bounty, the loss of which, since its repeal, amounts to more that $1,000,000. We are now told by the Republican press that the fishermen were anxious to be relieved of this burthen, and petitioned Con-

gress to repeal it. They fail, however, in this connection, to tell us of the promises made them, to warrant their continuing this perilous business. But it is not forgotten that in Gloucester alone, thirteen vessels belonging to the fishing fleet went down in one gale, carrying with them 143 men, leaving 53 widows and 137 fatherless children. The press undertake to blind the people by telling them that this hazardous business needs none of our protection, as it has been offset by the duty upon salt. This drawback to the fishermen proved to be a troublesome matter to the revenue officers, and it is now admitted not to be "quite equal to the bounty." This, too, was one of the measures of Republican administration. It is unjust to the fishermen to say that the evasions and "subterfuge of the more unscrupulous fishermen in the pursuit of their business" was an inducement for them to "petition Congress for its repeal," and rather than carry it on at such great odds a Republican Congress granted their request. It was a "gratuitous insult to their intelligence," for, when they were appealed to by a prominent Republican official in this county, who wrote and presented the petition, they were assured of its full equivalent in another form. They would now have us believe it was not a "question of politics;" but everybody knows that its repeal, and the gross blunders and ruinous measures growing out of the fishing treaty, were acts of the Republican party. They had lost sight of the injunction of the elder Adams, who believed that we should "continue the Revolutionary war rather than give up our rights to the fisheries." A full statement was made by our fishermen, setting forth their grievances to a committee of Congress, in the hope that they would get some indemnification; but the answer to this was that these measures had become administration measures, that there was no relief, and they adopted the treaty. The policy of the Democratic party, from the foundation of the government, has been to foster and take care of the three great leading industries of this country, — that of agriculture, commerce, and the fisheries. Who was the father of the

American fisheries? Thomas Jefferson. Who first sent the message to Congress as President, representing the value of the American fisheries? Thomas Jefferson. Who, as Secretary of State, wrote the ablest article that ever has been written upon this subject? Thomas Jefferson. Who has always stood up for American commerce and the fisheries in the past, when they had the power? The Democracy. Now let us, as Democrats of the Jeffersonian school, come forward and stand together, and restore these great industries to the country. Don't be lulled into inaction; but when Congress meets see that it speaks as the legislative bodies used to speak in 1775 and 1776. We have already seen that the Washington Treaty is like all other British treaties, — they got the better of us. The object of the Democratic party is now to build up from the ruins of the Republican party, and place it where it stood in the days of Jefferson and Jackson, "as the best and only security for free government." It is estimated that the fisheries of New England employ thirty-seven thousand men, and that the population of the United States supported by the fisheries exceeds half a million. The entire population supported by the fisheries consume $30,000,000 of our agricultural products, and the New England fisheries pay in local taxes about $3,000,000 on the capital employed in them; and yet our opponents undertake to deceive us by the cry that this is a "dead issue," and that the Democratic County Committee might as well have passed resolutions against the "alien and sedition laws," as to attempt to stand by the fishermen in their labors to restore their rights.

It is our duty occasionally to review the past. Our citizens may well feel indignant that they should lose their rights, and be compelled to pay so largely to promote the fisheries of the Provinces. The result has been that the heaviest failures ever known among our citizens have been the result of the operation of this treaty. Bankruptcy and ruin have taken place among those who have given a long life of labor to this business. This has grown out of the Republican party undertaking the experiment of legislating for the benefit of

foreign fishermen, instead of that of our own. England and France foster and take care of their commerce and their fisheries. The Republican party has proved recreant to both. The citizens of the United States are crippled in these important industries, and we are losing annually largely of our men and our vessels, and unless a Democratic Congress does its duty in restoring our commerce, it is feared we shall have to give place to the rapid inroads of foreigners. There is evidently a "tide in the affairs of men," and that tide was clearly manifested in the last political campaign. Very many of the clergymen who joined with Burchard in the religious meeting held at New York are fully impressed with the belief that there was an inspiration connected with his wonderful address, and that he had been governed by an overruling Providence.

Let me add, in conclusion, that with economy and perseverance we hope to recover from the terrible blow which the commerce of this country has suffered. If nothing better can be had, let us take the bill of Mr. Boutwell for the encouragement of ship-building. It is in the power of Congress to furnish the required relief, both to commerce and the fisheries. With this we shall not so often have to ask ourselves, "What is to be the future of Cape Cod?" When the Republican party came into power, there were only four districts in the United States which exceeded Barnstable in the extent of enrolled tonnage. These were New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and New Orleans. It then had an enrolled and registered tonnage of 48,980. It had 548 vessels employed in the coasting and fishing trade, 335 of which were engaged in the fisheries alone, and a valued tonnage of $1,700,000, and the product of the fisheries was valued annually at $1,271,000. There were ten shipyards in this county, in which vessels were built of from fifty to one thousand tons, and there were employed more than two thousand laborers. These yards are now all closed, and Mr. McKay, who was one of the most extensive builders in New England, spoke of the ruinous policy of this Government, and that England, by her liberal

policy, was enabled to build a "ship of one thousand tons, nearly $20,000 less in the Provinces than it could possibly be built in this country." He was forced to close his yard at South Boston and discharge his men. And yet all these grievances could not move a Republican Congress to relieve the ship-building, which is so essential to the success of every civilized country. So much of this is due to the action of "old Bourbon" rubbish, that there is good reason to believe that under a Democratic administration the rights of fishermen and commerce will be restored, realizing, as we do, that more than fifty per cent has already been depreciated. President Cleveland will do much to guard the rights of commerce; and I will close by proposing a sentiment, trusting that he will save us from the poverty and ruin which the Treaty of Washington imposed on us: —

"President Cleveland. A genuine inheritor of the principles and patriotism of Andrew Jackson; a practical business man; a sound and independent politician. His talents, industry, and unbending integrity have the unreserved confidence of his friends, the respect of his political opponents, and the unsolicited confidence of the Government. The people have rewarded his merits."

PRESIDENT GRANT'S VISIT

TO BARNSTABLE IN 1876.

CONSIDERABLE preparation had been made for the arrival of the Old Colony train of cars at Barnstable, having on board our honored President and several members of his Cabinet; flags having been displayed throughout the village. Major Phinney, having been selected to welcome him, said, —

Mr. President, — There is much relating to old Barnstable that our people have cause to be proud of, and you will pardon me for saying that there is no portion of the United States where you have a stronger hold upon the hearts of the people than here. Here was the home of Gov. Hinckley, the first of the Governors after the separation of the Colonies, nearly two centuries and a half ago. Here the distinguished patriot and statesman, James Otis, who fired the Revolution, was born. Here were reared many of the pioneers of the Revolution. Here, upon Meeting-house Hill, were the first soldiers mustered who reported themselves at headquarters in Cambridge, as among the first of the pioneers of American Independence. In the west part of this town is the First Independent "*Congregational Church*" of that name in the world. Shall I say, that when the Rebellion broke out, in this and the adjoining town of Sandwich was raised the first company within forty-eight hours after the news was received that Virginia had seceded? This company was doing good service at Fortress Monroe; and I witnessed with them, on that memorable Sabbath, the naval battle between the iron-clads "Monitor" and "Merrimac." It is sad to say that but seventeen of those brave boys who rallied at Sandwich lived to be welcomed to their homes after the close of war. A

remnant of the flag, at that time presented to the company with words of encouragement, is now unfurled before you. All along our shores were found strong arms and brave hearts. Gen. Sherman tells us that a Cape Cod pilot saved his fleet from shipwreck, off the Southern coast, in one of the most terrible storms ever experienced. That pilot, a native son of Hyannis, you had an opportunity of greeting, among other brave sailors, to-day. You have had an opportunity to know that the barren shores of Cape Cod have been fortunate in rearing men, and women too, who have always been prompt to respond to your call and that of their country. In closing, Mr. President, let me again thank you for the honor which you have done us in the flying visit you have made to the shores of Cape Cod, recognized as it is as the "right arm of the Old Bay State."

HISTORICAL LETTER.

THE DAWN OF THE CENTENNIAL YEAR. — ITS OBSERVANCE IN BARNSTABLE.

THE historic old town of Barnstable made no extensive arrangements to commemorate the advent of the centennial year; but, when the supreme moment came, the church-bell was rung, the old gun fired, the public buildings and numerous private houses were illuminated, and the streets were alive with enthusiasm.

There is good reason why our citizens should thus honor the occasion. It was here the patriot James Otis was born, — here upon Meeting-house Hill, where the first troops were raised upon the news being received of the declaration of war with England. Every thing relating to the early history of this section of the Old Colony will be found interesting. Plymouth has at last conceded that at Provincetown, Cape Cod, was the first landing from "The Mayflower" of our Pilgrim Fathers; there the first germ of civil government was enacted; there the first Governor was elected, and the first child was born; and, as Professor Palfrey said in his eloquent address at the second centennial celebration at Barnstable in 1839, "For who is there that has not blood in his veins from this our copious Barnstable fountain?" And the occasion leads me to refer to the address of Mr. Palfrey, because it was so full of historical facts.

As early as July, 1621, Barnstable Harbor was visited by a party of ten men from Plymouth, in a shallop commanded by Miles Standish. There were some English settlers here as early as 1638: Thomas Dimmock at that time was appointed to exercise people in arms; and the Rev. John

Lothrop emigrated from Scituate, arriving here in October, 1639. Mr. Lothrop died Nov. 8, 1653. By his will, he gave his wife, Mr. Palfrey tells us, one house in Barnstable, to his son Thomas another; and to his sons John in England, and Benjamin here, each a cow and five pounds; "Daughters Jane and Barbara," he says, "having had their portion already."

The Colonists were not common men, and they did not despair. All seemed against them; but they had stout English hearts and stout yeoman's hands, and the protection of the availing prayers that went up from pious homes. At length, by the blessing of the God of hosts, they triumphed. But it was a triumph won at almost intolerable cost. Barnstable always bore her full share of the deeds and sufferings of those days. As early as the spring of 1676, she was called on for one-tenth part, and her share of the disbursements of one period of the war is found to have been exceeded by only two other towns. At the time of the annexation of Plymouth to Massachusetts, Thomas Hinckley of Barnstable was governor of the former colony. He was a native of England, where he was born in the year 1618. He lived and died in the house which stood opposite to the dwelling of the late Mr. Jabez Nye.

Two ministries of Rev. Mr. Russell and Mr. Shaw covered the term of a complete century, within five years. Rev. Joseph Green of the East Parish died Oct. 4, 1770, and was succeeded April 10, 1771, by Rev. Timothy Hilliard, who after twelve years' service asked for his dismissal, and ended his days as minister of the church in Cambridge. Within the limits referred to, a son of Barnstable had done a work and attained a glory scarcely equalled by any great name of the American continent. On the 5th of February, 1725, in a farm-house at Great Marshes, was born *the pioneer of the American Revolution*, JAMES OTIS. As long as the question shall be asked, "Whose ardent steps pressed on foremost in that front rank in the great action of American Independence? whose burning eloquence fanned the flame in this

nation's bosom, which never expires until the right is won, or till there is no more martyr's blood to flow?" history, as Mr. Palfrey so beautifully says, will have to reply, "That illustrious instrument was the Barnstable boy whom I have named." His individual greatness came not the less naturally for being attached to a long Barnstable ancestral line.

The family from which he sprang was of ancient consideration in our town. John Otis, whose grandfather of the same name had emigrated from England to this country and become one of the first settlers of Hingham, was born in that place in the year 1657, and removed when a young man to Barnstable, where he lived to attain the age of seventy years, having for twenty years represented the town in the General Court. His son James, commonly spoken of as Col. Otis, born on the paternal estate in 1702, were not his fame eclipsed by that of his greater son, would fill a larger place in history than he now does.

The great question which came to involve all that was at issue between the mother country and the colonies was, whether general search-warrants, called *writs of assistance*, might legally be granted to officers of the customs, to give them admittance to suspected houses; it was powerfully argued in the negative by Otis. What belongs to history is the effect produced. "Otis," said President Adams the elder, who was one of the delighted hearers, "was a flame of fire." With a promptitude of classical allusions, a depth of research, a rapid summary of historical events and dates, and a rapid torrent of impetuous eloquence, he hurried away all before him. *American Independence was then and there born.* In 1776 he grew up to manhood, and declared himself free. The same venerable witness testified on another occasion: "I do say, in the most solemn manner, that Mr. Otis's oration against writs of assistance breathed into this nation the breath of life." In reference to his services, some one has said that "No spot in the country has made such a gift to the country as the spot called Great Marshes in Barnstable."

There are many events which carry us back to the heroic age of the nation. Among them was the impression made here by the first news of the Lexington fight. Deacon Phinney says, "Thursday, the 20th of April, was received the news of the engagement between the Regulars and Provincials." On the 21st, he says soldiers were mustered, and nineteen were sent off, and adds that he believes these nineteen stout Barnstable farmers "reported themselves at Gen. Ward's headquarters at Cambridge as soon as Nature's vehicles could bring them there." On Saturday, the old muskets of the French war had been cleaned, the flints and cartridge-boxes looked to, and blankets folded in the compact knapsacks by the loving care of trembling hands.

Tuesday, the 25th of April, was town-meeting, to raise money to buy guns, when three hundred pounds was voted for a chest of arms and some ammunition. This will furnish some idea of the state of mind in Barnstable at the beginning of the Revolution. Money was liberally raised from time to time to increase the bounty offered by the Commonwealth for enlistments in the Continental service. The naval war of the Revolution was, in a great measure, carried on by private armed vessels. This is shown by the fact that when the ill-fated privateer, the "Arnold," Capt. Magee, which sailed on the 30th of December, 1778, from Boston, went on shore at Plymouth the same night, in a snowstorm, out of sixty-eight men of her company who perished, ten were from Barnstable.

I will close by making only a slight reference further to the second centennial at Barnstable, which was so full of interest. It is painful to notice the many changes which so few years have wrought. Your Boston readers, where there are so many of the descendants of Barnstable, will scarcely credit the account that so many of their number who took part with us in September, 1839, are no longer among the living. I am induced to furnish you with the names of some of the public men of that day who were in Barnstable.

The orator of the occasion was Professor John G. Palfrey; Marshal, Henry Crocker; Toastmaster and Toast Committee, B. F. Hallett, Henry Crocker, Joshua Sears, and John L. Dimmock; others of the Managing Committee were William Sturgis, Francis Bacon, George Hallett, Thomas Gray, Adolphus Davis, Horace Scudder, Robert Bacon, Benjamin Rich, Benjamin Bangs, Benjamin Burgess, Matthew Cobb, Prince Hawes, Daniel C. Bacon, and Thomas Thatcher. Judge Nymphas Marston was President of the day. Gov. Everett responded to the toast, "Plymouth and Massachusetts Colonies," and charmed his hearers in his happiest strain. His address at this time has often been spoken of as one of his most eloquent.

Then followed, in a deeply affecting manner, Chief-Justice Shaw, to the toast, "Cape Cod;" Hon. William Sturgis, to the "Emigrants from Cape Cod." The remarks of Mr. Sturgis were followed by a neat original Yankee song on the towns and names of the Cape. Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, responded to the toast of "The younger Winthrop of Connecticut." "The New England Guards" was responded to by Capt. Bigelow, who many years since occupied the bench so worthily as our chief justice.

Toasts were also responded to by other distinguished gentlemen. Ex-Gov. John Henry Clifford, then one of Gov. Everett's aides, gave: "Cape Cod. Her pine trees once furnished to Massachusetts the device for her flag. She has retained the prouder distinction of furnishing through all history the truest hearts and the stoutest arms by which the flag has been defended." To the "West Barnstable Church," Uriah Crocker of Boston. These were followed by toasts by Prince Hawes, Henry Crocker, Joseph A. Davis, S. B. Phinney, Adolphus Davis, and innumerable other citizens of Cape Cod.

Interesting letters were read from Judge Mellen of Maine, Hon. Harrison Gray Otis of Boston, Hon. Judge Dewey, George Hull; George Bancroft, Collector of Boston; Josiah

Quincy, President of Harvard College; David Wilder, Treasurer of the Commonwealth; and John T. Bigelow, Secretary of the State. So much we take pride, as the sons and daughters of Barnstable, in referring to as we enter upon the centennial of 1876.

By one who has taken part in very much that has transpired since the war of 1812.

S. B. PHINNEY.

BARNSTABLE, Jan. 4, 1876.

SPEECH OF MAJOR PHINNEY

AT THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING OF FANEUIL HALL MARKET, AUG. 26, 1876.

I THANK you, Mr. Chairman, in behalf of your committee, for the cordial invitation to be present at this fiftieth anniversary of the opening of Faneuil Hall Market. In response to your call, I shall speak but briefly of what was transpiring under my own eye, while a resident of Boston, between the years 1823 and 1829. The events of that day are full of interest; and while yourself, Mr. Chairman, Nathan Robbins, Ebenezer Holden, and Harrison Bird are the only surviving original occupants of the market, it became my duty, as a printer on one of the leading journals of that day, to take note of what was transpiring, and we are here to verify the fact that the stalls were well filled with the best products of the fields, orchards, gardens, and cattle-markets of the rural districts. Josiah Quincy was a constant visitor at the office of the "Daily Advertiser" (where the first few years of my boyhood were pleasantly occupied), in conference with Nathan Hale upon great leading questions of that day; and none excited more attention than the building of the Faneuil Hall Market, and the series of articles which appeared in the columns of that paper upon the subject of railroads. Neither steamboats nor railroads had then entered Boston. Mr. Hale had upon the table in his sanctum a miniature railroad, which he took pride in exhibiting to your mayor and the merchants of Boston, explaining the manner in which he believed they might be made useful in the conveyance of heavy burthens over the country, by horse-power, providing that steam-power

could not be successfully applied. Business men were incredulous, and did not believe they could be successfully used as a means of public transportation. One of his friends, a prominent merchant and capitalist, was led to remark that "he thought it unfortunate that a man of such superior intelligence as Nathan Hale should be engaged in such humbugs!"

The City Government finally became interested; although it was not until 1829, when the Council voted to send fifty-five members to the Legislature, having in view the construction of a railroad, and a rousing meeting was held in Faneuil Hall, when it was resolved that it was, in the opinion of Boston, important for this Commonwealth to construct a railroad from Boston to the western line of the State, and from Boston to Providence, the City Government to obtain an Act to take the stock to build to Worcester, *providing the State did not want the whole!*

The Legislature granted the charter to Worcester; and with a State tax of seventy-five thousand dollars, and its other resources, it was believed the State debt would be discharged in a few years. The keynote was then struck, and the capitalists of our country from that day to the present have been making rapid strides. Even Cape Cod has been admirably provided for, and your citizens can now take the Old Colony Railroad to Provincetown Harbor, within a few rods of the anchorage of "The Mayflower" in 1620 having on board our Pilgrim Fathers.

But let me say, Mr. Chairman, that Cape Cod was having her influence at the Hub fifty years ago. Following Mayor Quincy, was the election of Harrison Gray Otis as mayor of Boston in 1828. Mr. Otis's immediate ancestors were residents of Barnstable, where he resided during the siege of Boston, and he was there when the news reached Barnstable of the conflagration of Charlestown. He did not forget to speak, while mayor, of the sensation of that town in that dismal hour; and believed, from impressions then made, that every man capable of bearing arms was ready to rush to death in defence of his country.

Boston is distinguished for her excellent mayors; and it is not uncommon to find them claiming that the blood of our Puritan fathers is still running in their veins. Gov. Everett, when on a visit to Barnstable, at the centennial in 1839, was gratified to find that his great-great-grandmother was born in the nearest adjoining county. Many of the ablest and best men in Boston emigrated from Cape Cod, and began their career here in humble life. Let me name some of those who were then taking an active part in every thing that pertained to the growth and prosperity of your city. Among the number were Chief-Justice Shaw, Professor John G. Palfrey, Francis Bassett, B. F. Hallett, Prince Hawes, George Hallett, Joshua Sears, Thomas Thatcher, David Sears, Daniel C. Bacon, William Sturgis, Francis Bacon, Alpheus Hardy, John L. Dimmock, Isaac Thatcher, Thomas Gray, David Snow, Isaac Rich, Benjamin Burgess, Horace Scudder, and later the Davises, Bangs, Bakers, Bearses, Nickersons, Crowells, Crockers, Cobbs, and innumerable others, — an emigration sufficient of itself to swamp any other section of the country except Cape Cod. They became a power sufficient to elect governors, and, if need be, to help on the industries of Boston, even to take their mayor from the right arm of the Old Bay State. Excuse my wandering, Mr. Chairman. I will close by giving you: —

"Boston: God bless her!

> "Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,
> My heart, untrammelled, fondly turns to thee."

THE FIRST CUNARD STEAMER.

THE BARNSTABLE CENTENNIAL, AND ITS EXAMPLE.

BARNSTABLE, MASS., July 21, 1880.

SINCE my communication to the "Post" of last week, relating to some of the events that were transpiring in Barnstable and Boston fifty years ago, some of the city papers have thought proper go back forty years to notice the arrival of one of the Cunard Line of steamers on the 3d of June, 1840. The arrival of the steamer "Unicorn," commanded by Capt. Douglass, was an event of more than ordinary interest; and it was believed that the guns of the cutter "Hamilton," Capt. Josiah Sturgis, who saluted the steamer upon her arrival, were heard at Barnstable. The papers brought by her informed us that the difficulty between England and Naples had been settled, that the French had made preparations for removing Napoleon's bones from St. Helena, and that the Russian army had experienced new disasters in Circassia, while the French had gained a victory in Africa, etc. The whole country was delighted that Boston had been enabled to open steam communication with Europe, and that we should no longer be required to wait the receipt of foreign news by the arrival of sailing vessels, varying from thirty-five to forty-five days. The delight and enthusiasm were universal, as was evinced at the large gathering at the dinner given to Mr. Cunard, one of the proprietors of the steamer, It may not be known to all your readers, that at this banquet ladies were permitted to join in the festivity. But the citizens of Boston took this occasion to follow the example set them at the centennial celebration at Barnstable on

the 3d of September previous. During the summer of 1839, a committee was chosen from this place, consisting of David Crocker, S. B. Phinney, and Zenas D. Bassett, to confer with William Sturgis, John L. Dimmock, and Joshua Sears, in Boston, to make the necessary arrangements for celebrating the centennial at Barnstable and the erecting of a pavilion to accommodate at least twelve hundred persons to the dinner. Capt. Sturgis declined to take part in the celebration, or to act with the committee, unless arrangements were made for ladies to dine with the company, and to join in all the festivities proper for the occasion. He believed the ladies had a common interest in the celebration, and that they should share in all or none. If they were excluded from the dinner-table, they might with propriety let the gentlemen dance alone, and then retire alone and indulge in "sweet or bitter fancies, as they may chance to come." He specially desired that it might first be tried at the banquet at Barnstable, and let the motto from one end of the Union to the other be, "Dine together and dance together, or dine alone and dance alone." It is enough to say that this recommendation was adopted unanimously by the committee, and more than four hundred ladies, for the first time in the history of our Government, partook of a public dinner at Barnstable. It proved, as Gov. Everett at that time took occasion to say, one of the most interesting occasions it had ever been his pleasure to attend. · Capt. Sturgis was gratified with the result, and closed his remarks at the table with the following lines: —

> "The world was sad, the garden was a wild,
> And man the hermit sighed, till woman smiled."

This section of the State felt proud that the citizens of Boston, at the Cunard dinner, should so soon have followed the example set them by this town. Daniel Webster, George Bancroft, and other eminent men spoke eloquently. It inspired them to be surrounded by so large a number of ladies as were present on this occasion; and we remember that

Mr. Bancroft, among other beautiful things, said it seemed to him that the introduction of steam had brought the Old Country and the New so near together, that some quiet morning, on listening upon our shores, the busy hum of the artisan might be distinctly heard upon the other side of the waters. I have had occasion before to speak of the large draught that has been made on the capital and enterprise of Cape Cod; and it would not have been any injury to Boston, perhaps, if she had more frequently followed the example set her by this Puritanic section of the Old Colony.

S. B. PHINNEY.

MONUMENT AT PROVINCETOWN, CAPE COD.

FIRST LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS.

AT the annual meeting of the Cape Cod Association, held in Boston in November, 1877, upon motion of Major S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, a committee of three was appointed to consider the feasibility of erecting a monument in honor of the *first landing* of the Pilgrims in Provincetown, on the 11th of November, 1620. The meeting believed that Plymouth had enjoyed the honor and the glory long enough, and that history should be set right by erecting a monument at Provincetown, Cape Cod, where not only the first landing was made, but where the first germ of civil and religious liberty was planted. Hon. Alpheus Hardy and Major Henry C. Brooks of Boston, and S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, were appointed on that committee. At the suggestion of members of the Association, Major Phinney afterwards caused to be draughted by a skilful architect a plan of a monument, which is now in his hands. It was designed to be of stone, some seventy feet in height, and containing about eleven feet space inside to admit of a stairway to a room in the tower to answer the purpose of a lookout for pilots and others, and a lighted clock that may be seen by vessels at night in any part of our harbor. It was also intended that a storm signal should be connected with it. Since that time, the General Government has established a signal at the point originally contemplated by the committee. They then procured of one of the most extensive stone-builders in Boston an estimate of the cost of constructing a monument from the plan submitted. Its cost was considered reasonable; and with a view

of getting our citizens interested, the whole was submitted to a committee for further consideration.

It was found that the Association had no funds that could be set aside especially for this purpose, but its members believed that when earnest efforts were made by citizens of the town and others, they could do much, individually, in aiding to build it.

For the completion of the monument erected at Plymouth in honor of the Pilgrims, the State Legislature appropriated $10,000, and the members of the same body considered that an example had been set for appropriating a suitable sum for a similar purpose at Provincetown, when needed. The Cape Cod Association has not forgotten the efforts of Chief Justice Shaw and others in causing to be placed on the Town Hall a suitable slab to commemorate the event, and there is good reason to hope that a conference will soon be had, and such a movement made by the committee as will guarantee its success. It would certainly seem that the proposition of the Cape Cod Association should be met, and that we should do our part toward erecting this memorial shaft.

THE FIRST LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS.

So much interest had been manifested in the movement to erect a monument in commemoration of the first landing of the Pilgrims at Provincetown, Cape Cod, that Major Phinney furnished the Yarmouth "Register," in March, 1878, a communication relating to the arrival of the "Mayflower," as follows: —

MONUMENT TO THE PILGRIMS.

At the annual meeting of the Cape Cod Association, at Boston, it was voted that a committee be appointed to consider the feasibility of erecting a suitable monument on High Pole Hill, Provincetown, to commemorate the first landing of the Pilgrims at that place, Nov. 11, 1620. Since the burning of the Town Hall at Provincetown, and the destruction of the marble slab placed there through the efforts of Chief-Justice Shaw of Boston, nothing is left to commemorate the event; and as it was at Provincetown the first landing was made, it is important that the sons and daughters of Cape Cod should see that a suitable monument is erected to their memory. The movement which has been inaugurated by the Cape Cod Association, and at a public meeting of the citizens of Provincetown, is a guaranty that it will be accomplished.

There is so much connected with the *first landing* after the arrival of the "Mayflower" in Provincetown Harbor, of a local as well as of a more public character, that a sketch at this time will be found interesting, especially of their visit to the shores of several of the towns in Barnstable County, before any landing was made by the Pilgrims at Plymouth.

As history informs us, the final departure of the "Mayflower" from England was on the 6th of September, 1620; and after several boisterous storms, they fell in with the land called Cape Cod, Nov. 9, and reached the harbor of Provincetown Nov. 11. This was the first spot on the New-England coast ever pressed by the footsteps of Englishmen, having been discovered by Gosnold in May, 1602, who gave it the name on account of the abundance of cod which he caught in its neighborhood.

"Let us go in the imagination," said Gov. Everett, "and look out upon this November scene. That single dark speck, just discernible through the perspective glass on the waste of waters, is the fated vessel. The storm moans through her tattered canvas, as she creeps, almost sinking, to her anchorage in Provincetown Harbor: and there she lies, with all her treasures, — not of silver and gold (for of these she has none), but of courage, of patience, of zeal, of high spiritual daring. So often as I dwell in imagination on this scene, — when I consider the condition of the 'Mayflower,' utterly incapable as she was of living through another gale; when I survey the terrible front presented by our coast to the navigator, who, unacquainted with its channels and roadsteads, should approach it in the stormy season, — I dare not call it a mere piece of good fortune that the general north-and-south wall of the shore of New England should be broken by this extraordinary projection of the Cape running out into the ocean a hundred miles, as if on purpose to receive and encircle the precious vessel. As I now see her, freighted with the destinies of a continent, barely escaped from the perils of the deep, approaching the shore precisely where the broad sweep of this most remarkable headland presented almost the only point at which for hundreds of miles she could, with any ease, have made a harbor, and this perhaps the very best on the seaboard, I feel my spirit raised above the sphere of mere natural agencies. I see the mountains of New England rising from their rocky thrones. They rush forward into the ocean, settling down as they advance, and there they range

themselves a mighty bulwark around the heaven-directed vessel. Yes, the everlasting God himself stretches out the arm of his mercy and his power in substantial manifestations, and gathers the meek company of his worshippers as in the hollow of his hand."

This harbor is completely landlocked, and is known as one of the finest on the Atlantic coast. The "Mayflower" anchored within half a mile of the end of Long Point. Here the shore was found very bold, and the water deep. And, for the first time in the world's history, a social compact was realized in practice. Before they left Holland it was evident they expected "to become a body politic," using among themselves civil government, and to choose their own rulers, and, "on the 11th of November, in the year of our Sovereign Lord, King James of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini, 1620," one hundred and one of the passengers of the "Mayflower" prefixed their names to this compact, just that number having sailed from Plymouth, England. On this day they chose John Carver their governor for the first year. The same day they set ashore some fifteen or sixteen men, well armed, to obtain some wood (as they were out), and also to see what the land was. The men appear to have been landed on Long Point. It was tolerably well wooded with oaks, pines, birch, juniper, etc. They returned on board at night, without finding any person or habitation, having loaded their boat with juniper.

On Monday the 13th, they tell us, they went on shore to refresh themselves, and the women to wash. On the 15th, sixteen men set out in single file, with caution, every man with his musket, sword, and corslet, under command of Capt. Miles Standish. They marched about a mile by the sea, and espied five or six people, with a dog, coming towards them: these proved to be savages. When they saw them they ran into the woods, and whistled their dog after them. When the Indians saw the Pilgrims, they ran away. They were followed by their footprints about ten miles. The next

morning they could see their trace, and pursued them until they came to a creek; but they marched through boughs and bushes without meeting them. As they had taken "neither beer nor water with them, and only a few biscuit and Holland cheese and a little aquavitæ," they were getting hungry and thirsty. They saw a deer, and came to a spring of water; and when they had refreshed themselves, they went to the shore, and made a fire, that they might be seen from the ship.

In this vicinity, which is a portion of Truro, they found fowl and deer, with a clear pond of fresh water. Here, too, they found corn which had been planted by the Indians. They went on farther, and found new stubble of which they had gotten corn this year, and walnut-trees full of nuts. And they found where a house had been, and four or five planks laid together, and a ship's kettle which had evidently come from Europe. They found also, by digging, a great new basket full of Indian corn. It held three or four bushels. They were in suspense what to do with it, but at length concluded to take the kettle and as much of the corn as they could carry away. Some time during the next year, the corn, if not the kettle, was restored to the Indians. They saw two canoes upon the shore, but returned that night back to the fresh-water pond, making a great fire. In the morning, they sunk their kettle in the pond, and trimmed their muskets, and, in their attempts to return to their vessel, lost their way. They marched some time in the woods, and at times in water up to their knees, until they came near to their ship. By shooting off their muskets, a boat was sent to the shore for them. They returned weary, and delivered their corn to be kept for seed. The weather became suddenly cold and stormy, and brought to many colds and coughs, turning to scurvy, and causing many to die.

On the 27th of November, they again set out in their shallop with thirty-four men. The weather was boisterous, and they rowed to the shore, making but little headway, and landed at East Harbor for the night. It snowed and blowed hard that night; and some that afterwards died, it is said,

took their death here. The next day they sailed to the river, now known as Pamet River in Truro. They landed a part of their men, and marched some four miles: the shallop followed them. The next morning they got to the head of Pamet River; here they found the corn they left behind them when they were there before. They digged a little farther off, and found a bottle of oil, Indian wheat, and a bag of beans: they found in all about ten bushels of corn, which was considered sufficient for seed. This they considered a part of God's providence, else they knew not what they should have done, as they thought they never would have seen a grain of it, except for their first journey to this place. A portion of their people went home with the corn (some that were sick), and the shallop was returned to them the next day.

The next morning they came upon a broad and beaten path, but it did not lead to the dwellings of the Indians as they expected. They marched five or six miles farther on, but could see no signs of people. They came to a place not bigger than a grave; and, digging, they found under, planks and matting, a bundle of perfect fine red powder, and the bones and skull of a man; other articles were bound up in a sailor's canvas cassock and a pair of cloth breeches. Another bundle was found, the same kind of powder in it, and the bones and head of a little child. About the legs and other parts of the child were found strings and bracelets of fine white beads. They covered the corpse up again, taking away a few things with them. While ranging, two of the sailors by chance saw two houses which had been recently occupied.

They entered the houses, and took out some things, but dare not stay. The houses were made of sapling trees bended, both ends stuck into the ground, with wrought mats, the door made of a mat to open. The chimney was a wide open hole; in the top they had a mat to close this with when they pleased: they could stand erect in them. About the fire, they lay on mats. They found here wooden bowls, trays

and dishes, pots, baskets made of shell, also an English pail or bucket: it had two iron ears, but no bail. There were curiously wrought baskets and sundry other household stuff: deer's heads recently killed, eagle's claws, baskets of parched acorns, pieces of fish and of broiled herring. Some tobacco-seed were also found, and other seeds unknown, with bundles of flags, sage, bulrushes, and other materials to make mats. The meaner wigwams were covered with mats made of bulrushes. Some of the articles found here were taken away. Afterwards, Young's History informs us, full satisfaction was given the Indians.

Some of the party were inclined to abide at this place, as it had a convenient harbor for boats, and because it had corn-ground ready for planting, and because Cape Cod was likely to furnish good fishing; and they had seen, before entering Provincetown Harbor, several whales that in pleasant weather would swim and play about them. These would furnish them the best kind of oil and bone. But finally a company was chosen to go out upon another discovery. Whilst some were employed in this discovery, Mistress White was brought to bed of a son. He was born on board the "Mayflower," and called Peregrine, and was the first child born of English parents in New England. He lived for many years in Plymouth County, and died in Marshfield, aged eighty-three years.

Wednesday, the 6th of December, it was resolved that further explorations should be made; and they again set forth for that purpose. Capt. Standish, Master Carver, William Bradford, Edward Winslow, John Tilly, John Howland, Richard Warren, Stephen Hopkins, and Edward Dotee, and two seamen — John Alderton and Thomas English — were of the party. The weather was exceedingly cold, and it was a long time after they left the ship before they could get clear of Sandy Point, — the end of Long Point. The weather was so boisterous, that two of their number became very sick. At length they got clear of this point by hard rowing, and got their sails up, and followed the shore

for a long distance, until they came to what is now known as Billingsgate Point in Wellfleet. As they drew near the shore in Eastham, they saw ten or twelve Indians. They saw the smoke of the fire which the savages made that night, four or five miles from them.

On the morning of the 7th they divided their company, — eight in the shallop, the rest on the shore. They found this nearly as good a harbor as Cape Cod, for a ship might ride in five fathoms; and the land was level, though not very rich. Those on board the shallop found nothing encouraging, and returned. They saw that the Indians had struck into the woods, by the side of a pond in Eastham. Here they found corn had been planted that year, and the houses of the Indians recently occupied; but there was nothing left but two or three pieces of old mats, and a little sedge. They espied before nightfall several Indians, whom they called to them. They proved to be friendly, and glad to see them.

On the morning of the 8th, after prayers, they tried their muskets, and prepared for breakfast and a journey. Before they got away, however, the Indians fired their arrows among them. Capt. Miles Standish, having a musket with a flint-lock, made a shot; after him, one or two others. The arrows were fired by Indians behind trees. One of them stood three shots of a musket, and after an extraordinary yell they all went away. They were followed some distance with the firing of muskets, that they might know they were not afraid of them. By the noise, it was thought there were not less than thirty or forty of them.

After they had given God thanks for their deliverance, they took their shallop, and went on their journey. Having a good wind, they sailed all that day, but saw neither creek nor river to put into. The distance along the coast from Eastham to the high bluff at Monument in Plymouth is about forty miles. They encountered a snowstorm an hour or two after they left Eastham, which prevented their seeing Sandy Neck, the entrance to Barnstable Harbor. If it had not been for this, it is highly probable they would have

entered this harbor, and made their settlement there. In this case Barnstable would have been *the Plymouth!* In the afternoon the wind increased, and, the sea being very rough, the hinges of the rudder broke, and it was with difficulty that the use of two oars would serve their purpose. Master Coppin bade them be of good cheer, for, although near night, he saw a harbor. It was the cove between the Gurnet and Saquish Points, at the entrance of Plymouth Harbor. They tell us that it pleased a Divine Providence that they fell upon this place, where their shallop rode safe and secure that night.

On the morning of the 10th of December, Saturday, they landed and marched about upon what is known as *Clark's Island*, just within the entrance of Plymouth Harbor, and so called after the mate of the "Mayflower." They made a rendezvous here for the day, but found no inhabitants. The following day, Sunday, they rested; and on Monday sounded the harbor, and found it good for shipping. They then marched into the land, and found cornfields and running brooks, and otherwise presenting a favorable appearance; and returned to the "Mayflower" with good news to the rest of their company. This is the ever-memorable day of the landing of the fathers at Plymouth.

This was comforting news to the Pilgrims. They left the "Mayflower" in Cape Cod Harbor, the 6th, were three days getting to Clark's Island in Plymouth Harbor, and started on their return to the ship about the 13th, and, going across the bay, reached her on the 14th. They found that the day after their leaving the vessel, Dorothy, the wife of William Bradford, who was one of the party in the shallop, fell overboard and was drowned.

Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers informs us that on the fifteenth day of December, they weighed anchor in Provincetown Harbor, to go to the place they had discovered. They did not get across the bay until Saturday the 16th, when they got safely into harbor. Monday the 18th, they landed upon Clark's Island, which is the only

island in Plymouth Harbor. They landed in the "long boat," manned with the master of the ship and three or four of the sailors. They went along the coast seven or eight miles, saw no Indians, but found where they had planted corn. That night, becoming weary, they went on board again.

The next morning being Tuesday, the 19th of December, some went on land, and some in the shallop, to make further discoveries. They found at the place visited the day before, some three miles up, a very pleasant river. At full sea they found that a bark of thirty tons might go up, but at low water it was with difficulty they could go up in their shallop. They took a liking to this place, and thought it best to remain until they had more strength. That night they returned on shipboard with resolution the next morning to settle on some of the places about Plymouth Harbor.

So in the morning, Dec. 20, after calling on God for direction, they came to the resolution to go ashore again, and take another view of two places. After landing (believed this day to be on Plymouth Rock), they came to the conclusion to settle on high ground (which is on a hill facing the harbor). From thence they could see far into the sea and Cape Cod. In a clear day the white sand-hills of Provincetown may be distinctly seen from this hill. So there they made their rendezvous for their people, and about twenty the next morning concluded to go ashore and build houses.

But Thursday morning, the 21st, was stormy and wet, and they could not land. It was with difficulty that those remaining on the shore could keep dry. About eleven o'clock, the shallop went ashore with provisions, but could not return, the gale was so strong; and the "Mayflower" was compelled to ride with three anchors ahead.

House-lots were finally laid out for nineteen families, not on the hill, but in front of it on Leyden Street. Not until January did they commence their labor of building their houses. It was agreed that every man should build his own house. They had to make mortar, gather thatch, and during

the month Edward Winslow says "they had completed seven dwelling-houses." On the 17th of February, on account of anticipated troubles with the Indians, they called a meeting for establishing military orders, and chose Miles Standish commander. During this month seventeen of their number died. It was not until the 22d of March, 1621, that all of the passengers were landed at Plymouth from the "Mayflower," when the weather had become fair and warm. During the month of March thirteen more of their number died; and in all, during the three months previous, one-half of their company had perished, the greater part in the depth of winter and for want of houses and other comforts; at times two or three died a day. The scurvy fell among the sailors, and almost half of their number died before they sailed. But spring finally came, and it put new life into the people, though they bore their sad affliction with great patience; and on the fifth day of April, 1621, the "Mayflower" sailed from Plymouth, and arrived in England the sixth day of May. It is worthy of notice, that notwithstanding the hardships, privations, and mortality among the Pilgrims after their arrival at Provincetown the 9th of November, during the winter months not one of them was induced to abandon the enterprise and return home in the "Mayflower."

CAPE COD.

At the anniversary dinner at Faneuil Hall of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, the president proposed a sentiment to: "Cape Cod. May its sands never run out," and called upon Major Phinney of Barnstable to respond.

He said he accepted the invitation to be present at the two hundred and thirty-seventh anniversary, with more than usual pleasure, that he might renew his thanks to this valiant corps for the valuable services it rendered Cape Cod in the "days that tried men's souls." Early in the war of the Rebellion the Barnstable

County Agricultural Society invited the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company to do escort duty to the Governor, because of their true patriotic spirit; and we were made more than happy when Gen. Tyler reported himself at Barnstable early on the morning of the fair with good two hundred strong. The sensation it produced in our quiet little village has not been forgotten. At the sound of the bugle every man proved himself prompt and courageous at the dining-hall, and the ladies complimented them for the grace and dignity of their movements at the dance. The presentation of a service of plate was then made to one of your distinguished members at Masonic Hall, which was crowded to its utmost capacity. One of the antiquarians of your corps, more brilliant than the rest, had discovered, after a diligent research of the Old Colony records, that its members were lineal descendants of old Barnstable. Those he believed who were not of direct genealogy, and could not claim that they were born on Cape Cod, it was found that their immediate ancestors were from old Plymouth in the vicinity of Hull! When our venerable guests took up their line of march, it was to the tune of "The girl I left behind me."

Let me allude to the fact, Mr. Commander, that in 1638, only seventeen years after the landing of our Pilgrim Fathers in Provincetown Harbor, the "Military Company of Massachusetts," now known as the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery," received its charter from the Colonial Governor. From this was claimed its Old Colony origin, and now it remains for you to initiate the first step for erecting a monument to their memory. And let it be erected where the Pilgrims first landed, at Provincetown, Nov. 11, 1620. The "Cape Cod Association" will join your command in inaugurating this important work. Shall it be done? If so, we will here and now invite our Governor to aid us in laying the corner-stone, and report upon our doings at your next banquet in Faneuil Hall. I will close by offering the following sentiment: —

"The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. Distinguished for its martial spirit, its patriotism, and its love of liberty. It was the soul of such a corps that has infused itself throughout New England, and been so nobly transmitted from father to son for more than two centuries."

NEW-ENGLAND EXCURSIONISTS

TO CALIFORNIA IN 1880.

THE Ordway excursion party to the Far West was absent over two months. It proved to be one of the most enjoyable parties. As it was without a correspondent, Major Phinney, at the request of the party, furnished the Boston "Journal" with several communications, during their absence. Among the number was the following: —

CALIFORNIAN EXCURSIONISTS.

RENO, NEV., April 22, 1880.

I COMMENCED a letter to the "Journal" at Laramie City, but had no opportunity to complete it until the embargo at this place, of the excursionists of New England *en route* for California, has enabled me to do so. The party left Boston on the evening of the 12th inst., and comprised 135 ladies and gentlemen from Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, — in fact, a New-England delegation, — bound to the Golden Gate. I will not attempt a description of the beauties of the scenery along the route, to those who were making the trip for the first time; it is enough to say that it was by many found perfectly *wonderful.* To many, sight-seeing began before we reached Chicago or Council Bluffs. The bridge across the Mississippi, to Omaha, is one of the wonders of the age. After leaving Chicago over the North-western Railway to Council Bluffs, we reach the Union Pacific Railway, which is everywhere recognized as one of the best-regulated institutions in this country. It has im-

portant lines radiating from Omaha, and reaching points in the West, North, and North-west. If I were about to describe routes of travel and railroads admirably managed, they would be those owned and operated largely by gentlemen of Massachusetts, who are among the largest capitalists and have distinguished themselves as the most thorough business men that New England has produced. These gentlemen are well known to the readers of the "Journal." I cannot refrain, however, from mentioning the names of some of the most prominent, such as Elisha Atkins, vice-president of the Union Pacific, F. L. Ames, Ezra H. Baker, the Nickersons, who are often spoken of. And here I find myself among a large class of the business men of the West, who know how to appreciate the never-to-be-forgotten services of Oakes and Oliver Ames of Massachusetts. They have not forgotten the oft-repeated statement of a member of Congress, who was joined with Oakes Ames on the Railroad Committee, who said that the country owed to this gentleman the completion of the Pacific Railroad, ten years in advance of the time it could possibly have been constructed, except for his unceasing labors. Mr. Ames had large wealth and indomitable energy, and really believed it was possible to construct a new world. Congress had been hammering over the subject of the Pacific Railroad nearly three years when he was elected to Congress. As a member of the Railroad Committee, in his quiet business manner he had large influence, and told the committee that it was but right that Congress should appropriate money for this great public enterprise, and conceived it to be the duty of Congress to go where private enterprise would go; that he was prepared to take $1,000,000 for the work, and would be responsible for as much more, believing that the business men of Boston were prepared to co-operate with him.

His argument was sound and business-like, and Congress finally appropriated such amount of money as was thought necessary to complete the work. It is not necessary to say that no white man had crossed the Rocky Mountains at that

time (except it might be Gen. Fremont); and Congress, with all its wisdom, could make no estimate within millions of what was required to construct the road. If my memory serves me aright, thirty thousand dollars a mile was appropriated to the foot, and eighty thousand dollars for its construction over the mountains. The most skilful engineers had not been able to make any reliable estimate of its cost. Oakes Ames, however, persevered. He invested very much of his hard-earned fortune in this work, and entered into a contract of forty-three million dollars, not knowing whether he and his friends would become bankrupt before its completion. To save themselves it was thought advisable to form a close compact, by enacting, what became a bugbear to politicians, the law (passed in the State of Pennsylvania) known as the Credit Mobilier. Before the road was constructed it was found that Congress might have appropriated a few thousands less than it did. Those of the members who voted for it, and had taken sparingly of its stock and received the dividends claimed, were denounced all over the country (on the eve of important Congressional elections) as having knowingly swindled the Government. But if no other man living was proved to be strictly honest and conscientious, that man was Oakes Ames. As well might the country have abused Samuel Hooper and other members who voted for and favored our present national banking system, and subscribed largely to its stock. It is enough in this connection to say that history will place the memory of Oakes Ames aright. Here his labors are appreciated, and his friends will be gratified to know that the press and the people of the West are already agitating the question of the erection of a monument to the memory of both Oakes and Oliver Ames. This has had its origin among the pioneers of the West, largely composed of New England men, who believe that the "summit of the mountains" at Sherman (named in honor of Gen. Sherman, the tallest General in the service), that is over eight thousand feet above the level of the sea, is the most desirable point. One of the pioneers of this movement is

Col. C. W. Kitchen of Evanstown, Wyo., who is one of the wealthiest and most enterprising gentlemen of the State. The Desert House, of which he is proprietor, is along the line of the road, and is considered the Delmonico of this region. The dinner he furnished the Ordway party was equal to that furnished the New England Society at their gathering a few weeks since at New York. Gov. Head, Judge Sargent, and a host of gentlemen from Massachusetts were prompt to respond to a vote of thanks to this gentleman.

The entire region of country about the mountains is wild and picturesque, and always repays the tourist. Your readers, however, would not have the patience to follow me, even if I had time to talk about the Ogden Cañon, the Ogden Valley, the Echo Cañon, or the Salt Lake Valley; of Castle or Hanging Rock, Echo City, or the One-thousand-mile Tree that tells the traveller that he has passed over one thousand miles of railway from Omaha. Dashing along through Weber Quarry, the mountains seem to have been dove-tailed together; but skilful engineers, aided largely by New England capital and indomitable energy, have triumphed over all, and a connecting line of railroad is now uniting the broad Atlantic with the Pacific coast. But few attempt for the daily press, or have time or inclination, to notice the mighty works of nature on the line of the Union and Pacific Railroads. The massive piles of worn and seamed rocks in their struggle against the destroying hand of time are wonderful to behold.

The excursionists were heartily received at Salt Lake City, or "Zion" as the Mormons term it; and all the points of interest were visited and greatly enjoyed, among them the Mormon Church and the Tabernable. Gov. Head had a long and interesting interview with Gov. Murray of Utah.

A zealous attempt is now being made by the Mormons to increase their power, by taking large tracts of valuable lands surrounding the city, with the view of settling all the foreign emigrants that can be prevailed upon to take them; and it is believed by Gov. Murray that the aid of the Government will sooner or later be required to put a stop to the unlawful

measures now being taken. Gen. Smith, in command at Fort Douglas, issued the following: —

"FORT DOUGLAS, UTAH, April 19, 1880.

"*Complimentary* to the Hon. Natt Head, Hon. J. E. Sargent, Rev. Mr. Herrick, Commodore Perkins, Major S. B. Phinney, and party. *Programme*, Fourteenth United States Infantry Band: Gilmore's 'Columbia,' Operatic Pot-pourri, Bugle Call Polka, Our Country and Flag, Galop, Wasatch."

Over one hundred of the party availed themselves of carriages, and visited the military post, and were heartily received. Its location is beautiful, being situated on the base of the mountains, about three miles from the city. It overlooks the city and the lake, and affords a fine view of the country. The Mormons seemed delighted to meet so large a delegation of the Puritanic stock from New England, and some of our party were delighted to have at last reached "Zion"!

I telegraphed you of the warm reception we received here from the citizens of Utah, during the snow-storm and our embargo. More anon, and excuse the hasty letter of an excursionist from the

OLD COLONY.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28, 1880.

MY last letter to "The Journal" was written at Reno, Nev., while blockaded with snow. It was the purpose of the excursionists to remain at Reno a few hours upon our arrival at that place, so as to "double Cape Horn" by day; but providentially the unprecedented snow blockade detained the party three days, thereby affording those who chose to visit Carson and Virginia City an opportunity to do so. About one-half of the party availed themselves of the opportunity to join in a thoroughly enjoyable day in beholding the wondrous works of God and man, as exhibited in mountains and in machinery, much of the way between Carson

and Virginia. "The hills, rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun," were at our left, piled mountain high; while at our right the bed of the cañon, five hundred feet below us, or the gently sloping mountain, gave us a panorama of wild and enchanting grandeur. This rugged scenery not only gave us great delight, but it gave us also a peep into the hearts of the pioneers in this new country. Tired of the drowsy humdrum of Eastern life, they came hither to grow up with the country, and for the "almighty dollar," and either or both inducements have offered and still offer golden opportunities.

Virginia is a city built upon a hill, or rather upon the south-eastern side of Mount Davidson, and has a population of about seventeen thousand. The wealth of the country hereabouts is hidden beneath the surface, and in depths varying from a few feet to twenty-five hundred feet. At this depth the rich mines of gold and silver have paid, and will probably continue to pay, large dividends on the enormous costs of machinery for hoisting the precious metals, for the more ponderous engines for keeping the mines at these low levels free from hinderances by water, and for converting the valuable rocks into bars of gold and silver.

Virginia shows well in the number of her national banks, and her "faro banks;" her public-school buildings, and her dens of iniquity; her fine churches, and her glittering gambling-hells. And although she has an altitude of sixty-two hundred feet, and is less than a quarter of a century old, her everlasting hills are in archæan time, and her rocks are of the oldest sedimentary formations.

Through the thirty miles of continuous snowsheds, through which we passed after leaving Reno for the Pacific coast (save where loop-holes had been made by the crushing weight of twenty or more feet of snow), we could see in the construction of these sheds, and the interspersed tunnels through the solid rock, where much of the vast sums of money appropriated by Congress for the building of this trans-continental road must have been used.

Soon after having passed the "summit," and almost before we could reach it, we were whirled over the steel rails, "narrow as the path to glory," by the attraction of gravitation, although the brakes were set, and steam was shut off. From snowsheds and tunnels to green grass and smiling verdure we were transported, as it were, at a single bound.

The excursionists reached the Palace Hotel in this city, on Thursday morning last, at two o'clock. San Francisco has a population of over three hundred thousand, and is the most important city on the Pacific coast of the American continent. The fortunate discovery of gold at Coloma, in 1848, opened a new era for San Francisco, and from that event we may date its rise to greatness. In public and private buildings, theatres, schools and churches, street-railroads, water and gas works, wealth of individuals, and refinement, it ranks with the first in the Union. Here the party will remain for several days; then a journey will be made to the interior by taking the Southern Pacific Railroad to Santa Clara Valley, San José, and other places along the line of the Southern Pacific, where can be seen the princely residences of San Francisco's prosperous merchants; the United States Mint, the largest in the country; seal rocks from the cliffs on the Pacific coast, barren of every thing except seals, sea-lions, etc., some of the seals weighing over two thousand pounds. Here the highest peak is surmounted with a light-house, three hundred feet above the water. Oakland and China-town are among the attractions, and have been visited by most of the visitors.

Ex-Mayor Bryant gave a reception in the parlors of the Palace Hotel on Sunday evening to Gov. Head of New Hampshire, Judge Sargent, N. White, Major S. B. Phinney, Dr. Ordway (who is the lion and the guide of the party), T. L. Smith of Cambridge, and others of Massachusetts. Col. Bryant has been gentlemanly and attentive to all the Puritan New England visitors.

A committee of arrangements was chosen at a preliminary meeting of the excursionists, consisting of Judge Sargent,

S. B. Phinney, T. L. Smith, W. P. Frost, E. H. Bugbee, B. Lombard, and E. B. Knapp, to make arrangements for a grand re-union of the party at the Palace Hotel to-morrow evening. Speeches are expected from several gentlemen of the party, resolutions adopted, and the ladies are looking forward to the occasion with great interest. Gov. Head will preside. After the re-union and general hand-shaking, dancing, etc., there will be a separation of many of the party, some of whom propose making excursions to other portions of the State. This hotel has been crowded most of the week by strangers from all portions of California, who have met here to welcome their New-England friends. The weather is delightful, and the party are pleased with the scenery which gladdens the eye in every direction.

OLD COLONY.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., May 10, 1880.

THE New-England excursionists are now, for the most part, in a region of the country where the corn, wine, and oil of the commerce of old abound, and where the pomegranate, fig, orange, lemon, and other semi-tropical fruits abound, and can be seen to perfection. It may not be uninteresting to the readers of the "Patriot," to have a letter from one who has not forgotten his deep interest in all that pertained to its welfare in days gone by.

The excursion has been full of interest, notwithstanding the weather has been unusually severe. The rains have continued much later than usual. The air has been chilly, and thus far May has been decidedly Eastern in its character; but New Englanders are used to it. For the credit of our "glorious climate," I wish it had put on a better face before our arrival. Many of the party are known personally to your readers, and I will attempt a brief sketch from this beautiful country.

Cape Cod, the old Bay State, is largely represented by representative men who are closely identified with all its interests, and who understand its wants and claims, and

have not failed, when called upon both publicly and privately, to maintain its honor. Gov. Head represents New Hampshire as its chief executive officer, and shows us that the Granite State still continues to call its best men to its highest offices. Ex-Mayor Bryant of San Francisco, whose "limbs were made in New Hampshire," and whose wife was born on Cape Cod, represents both sections. He has just left the mayor's office, which he has occupied for two terms with great ability and popularity, a second term being an honor enjoyed by only one man before him, and that was way back in prehistoric times. Being well acquainted with Gov. Head and your correspondent, Mayor Bryant called upon them the day of their arrival, and drove them to points of interest in the city, to the magnificent residence of Charles Crocker, Esq., who is as well known in the East as here for his large wealth, his prominence in business, and in the management of the Pacific Railroads. Here the party were cordially and handsomely entertained, and afterwards received the same treatment at the spacious residence of Mayor Bryant. Later in the week he entertained Gov. Head and family, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Phinney, and other friends, to a dinner at his residence, which was full of enjoyment. With the delicate food, pleasant wines, and lively conversation, it was nearly twelve o'clock before the company rose. Mayor Bryant has displayed marked attention to the New-England delegation, and they express their satisfaction and delight with such a reception.

On the 3d inst., the party left San Francisco, and spent about ten days in visiting the southern part of the State, Los Angeles, the Yosemite Valley, the Geysers, and other places of interest. The Yosemite is the *wonder of the world*, and you may judge of its interest when I tell you that hundreds are now visiting it, having to occupy six days of hard stage travel from Merced in going and coming. It presents one of the most charmingly picturesque scenes to be found in this or the Old Country; and not a day passes that English gentlemen are not visiting this romantic valley.

Close to the south-east stands the majestic "South Dome," 45,000 feet in altitude above the lake. On the north and west lie immense rocks that have been detached from the tops of the mountains 3,000 feet above, and among these grow a large variety of trees; the circumference of several I measured, and found them varying from 35 to 41 feet. This valley was discovered by white men in 1851, first by Major Savage. The most notable falls are the Ribbon, over 3,000 feet; the Upper Yosemite, over 2,600 feet; the Bridal Veil, 950; the Nevada, 700; and others equally magnificent. The "Cap of Liberty," 4,000 feet; El Capitan, 3,000; Sentinel Rock, 3,000, and others equally wonderful; but these must be seen to be appreciated.

The "Old Colony" delegation have met with a large number of residents in California who came from Cape Cod, and are displaying in business the intelligence and skill which lead to fortune, and which distinguish the natives of the Cape. We have met with several gentlemen who were educated at Paul Wing's School in Sandwich, an institution which, it may be said, has for generations been distinguished by the eminence which its numerous graduates have attained. Among the most eminent let me name Mr. William Bradford, who has distinguished himself as one of the best artists in this country. At his studio we witnessed some of the very best paintings that have ever been taken of Yosemite Valley.

On the whole, the excursionists from the East have enjoyed themselves highly; have not been disappointed, and come to the conclusion that California is as good as represented.

One of the palace cars, containing a portion of the visitors, will leave San Francisco the 18th inst. for Boston. After reaching Cheyenne, they will visit the city of Denver, Pueblo, taking the Sante Fé Railroad through Colorado and Kansas to Kansas City, and thence to Council Bluffs and Chicago, with the expectation of reaching home some time during the first week in June.

Several of the party will stop over a day at Laramie City. At this point a large number from New England are wend-

ing their way to the "Black Hills," where valuable gold and silver mines are said to have recently been discovered. At Laramie many of the most industrious and intelligent of the young men of Massachusetts have located during the past few years, some engaged in mining, others largely engaged in supplying cattle for the Chicago market. Mr. Bacon, a descendant of Cape Cod, and a graduate of old Harvard, is among the most successful, and is recognized as "cattle king" of this section. He has made a pretty little fortune the past two years. He was at his ranch, several miles from Laramie, upon the arrival of the party, but will meet them while homeward bound.

At Los Angeles the "Herald" designated the ladies of the New-England party "as characterized by an air at once intellectual and ethereal;" and the gentlemen have found no fault that they have carried the palm. But everywhere, let me conclude by saying, the press has universally spoken complimentarily of the representatives of the "sturdy stock of New England." This was (as might be expected) gratifying to those at least of your friends from the

OLD COLONY.

A PLEASANT VISIT.

The Los Angeles "Journal" said: "We enjoyed a very pleasant visit yesterday evening from Gov. Head of New Hampshire, Messrs. S. B. Phinney of Massachusetts, and E. B. Knapp of Skaneateles, N.Y. These gentlemen form a part of the Eastern excursion party. Mr. Phinney was a newspaper man in Massachusetts forty years ago, when newspapering was in its infancy. Mr. Knapp is correspondent of the Syracuse 'Journal.' It is a pleasure to meet with such gentlemen, representatives of the sturdy stock of New England."

AGRICULTURAL.

AT the annual cattle-show and fair of the Barnstable County Agricultural Society in 1878, President Perkins read the following letter from Major Phinney, whose term, as member of the State Board, expired Dec. 31, 1879: —

BARNSTABLE, Sept. 12, 1878.

COL. A. T. PERKINS.

Dear Sir, — At the close of my present term of office, I shall have served this Society, as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, twelve years, — nearly one-half the time the Board has had existence. Thanking the Society, through you as its President, for this mark of its confidence, I have to ask that my name shall not be used for re-election at the next annual meeting.

I had the pleasure of attending the first meeting of the Society, thirty-five years ago; and how sad the reflection, that, of the sixty-three persons who then signed the constitution, seventeen only of that number are now living!

The Barnstable County Society, as is everywhere admitted, has been invaluable in advancing the cause of agriculture in this section of the State. But few societies, enjoying the bounty of the State, stand higher in the estimation of practical farmers, and there is none furnishing a better record. It was organized in a community where its citizens were largely occupied in commercial pursuits, and it required long years of labor to establish for it the high position it now holds. The result has been that sailors and shipmasters have learned both to plough the ocean and the land. This they have done successfully. It has now enrolled more than

four hundred members; and while Thanksgiving has been handed down to us by the fathers, as the cherished and ever-to-be-cherished "family festival," the Barnstable Agricultural Society is the great COUNTY FESTIVAL, in which all may join, forgetting all party names and distinctions.

The delegate of the State Board who visited this Society nearly twenty-five years ago was surprised to find so little fruit on exhibition, and that our citizens took so little interest in the welfare of the Society; but he had discovered that no portion of the world had succeeded in producing so large a number of energetic men as the sandy Cape, and that our strength did not lie so much in the depth and fertility of the soil, as in the moral, intellectual, and physical superiority of her citizens. Thanks to the energies of our people, but few societies in this Commonwealth now exhibit at their annual fairs better fruits and vegetables, and our cattle-pens have shown equally valuable stock. One of the marked features of improvement and usefulness is the interest which men of leisure — retired shipmasters and others — have manifested in agriculture and horticulture in this section of the Old Colony. Some of their homesteads have been made model farms, and become perfect gardens, containing, as they do, some of the choicest fruits in Massachusetts.

To a large extent, the successful culture of the cranberry had its origin from the liberal bounties offered by this Society. The culture of this fruit has so largely added to the wealth of the county, that it is now said to exceed in value the amount of fresh fish annually marketed from its entire coast. The clearing of swamp and peat lands, and salt-marshes, also had its origin by the bounty of this Society. These were numerous and unproductive, and thousands of acres have been made to "blossom like the rose." Hundreds of acres now under cultivation are estimated at more than five hundred dollars per acre. There were marketed from the several towns in this county, last year, 34,743 barrels of cranberries, which were considered equal if not superior to any grown in this country. At the low price of seven dol-

lars per barrel they yielded to the cultivators the sum of $243,201.

The Barnstable County Society was also the pioneer in the planting of the forest-tree. Thirty years ago it awarded the late Amos Otis and myself a liberal premium for the successful cultivation of the pitch-pine. This was from the planting of the seed; and while so many at that time thought that only our "children's children" would live to realize any benefit from this experiment, thousands of acres of this planting may now be seen with trees which girth more than a man's body. The planting was, for the most part, on common, worn-out lands, experience having shown that the light, sandy lands of Cape Cod could be made profitable by the propagation of the pitch-pine. The increased value of the lands thus planted in this county is estimated at more than two millions of dollars!

Let farmers — the tillers of the soil, — even upon the barren shores of Cape Cod, take courage. Our children must be taught that there is nothing menial in labor. It has been well said that ours is a glorious government, but let us not trifle with it: there is really no nobleman but the laborer, and the time is already upon us that he who does nothing will be nothing.

Barnstable County abounds in large fresh-water ponds, which is another of its characteristic features. This Society, to its credit be it said, took early measures to encourage the propagation of fish. In some of its waters there has been planted the black bass, and this has so far proved a success, that they are now taken from our ponds weighing over three pounds. The propagation of this and other species of fish afterwards engaged the attention of our State authorities, and it has already proved a source of great revenue. This, in brief, is something of what has been done by this Society, in consideration of the bounty it has received from the State. It cannot be denied that the money has been well expended; and let us hope that it will not be withdrawn as has been so often advocated by those who take but little interest in

agriculture, or see but little of the advantages growing out of our county fairs.

In conclusion let me say one word about the financial condition of this Society. The Treasurer's report in 1859–60 shows that it was then free from debt. It will be remembered that some of its contributors, who aided to build its spacious hall, and purchased its grounds, were assured that it *should be kept free from debt.* The report of its treasurer in 1877 shows at that time a debt of $1,500. To aid in freeing the Society of this incumbrance, several plans have been proposed. I was joined to a committee of three some two years ago, with yourself, Mr. President, to see if funds could not be raised by subscription, or otherwise, for its payment. I regret to say that thus far we have not been able to accomplish the object. I do not despair, however, that with renewed effort upon the part of the committee it may yet be done. But to do this, the Society must be *united* at each returning season, and not *divided* into petty factions and local jealousies.

Again thanking the Society for the assurance of its long-continued confidence, let me say that I shall be found prompt to respond to such call of the Society as may be required to aid in continuing its usefulness as one of the best agricultural institutions in the State.

Very respectfully yours, etc.,

S. B. PHINNEY.

UNITARIAN CONFERENCE.

AT the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the First Parish Church in Sandwich, on the 28th of September, 1888, the President, Major S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, in calling the Conference to order, said, —

Delegates and Friends, — The First Parish Church in this town has reached its two hundred and fiftieth birthday. We congratulate all who are assembled here to celebrate the grand anniversary. The old meeting-house, rudely constructed, with shutters for windows, and its thatched roof, offers a striking contrast to the present beautiful edifice erected on the site of the old building. The importance of the work of your Parish Clerk and Committee, Messrs. Charles Dillingham, Samuel Fessenden, B. G. Bartley, and W. A. Nye, cannot be over-estimated; and the able address of your pastor, the Rev. O. B. Beals, will be handed down with an unusual degree of interest to future generations. In giving a brief historical sketch of this old parish, as the records now preserved are quite limited, we will simply state that only eleven persons formed its nucleus. Like many other of our parishes whose origin dates to so great antiquity, the struggle for existence even was fearfully hard. The expenses of the same, repairs and the like, were paid at one time in merchantable Indian corn. The minister's salary was by no means a cynosure, as in these days. The minister who received twenty-five dollars a year, and half the fish he caught in the river which ran through the town in still later times, was a prince in comparison. Your records tell of one of your pastors who received for his salary a deed of land

simply, and the drift-whales which were washed up on the shore; still another, the benefit of pasturing his horse in the old burying-ground. As far back as 1722, times were a little better, and the minister had ninety pounds and the use of the parsonage lands and meadows. Then we have the account of reverses again, religious differences, and law-suits, for a period of twenty or more years. In 1747 the church and parish had another lease of prosperity. Four hundred pounds per year was paid a graduate of Harvard College, Rev. Abraham Williams, who proved efficient in restoring peace and reconciling discordant factions.

In 1787 another graduate of Harvard College, Rev. Jonathan Burr, furthered the good cause, and established the academy in this town, which holds so high a position to the present day. In 1808, in connection with other discords, the religious strife for the separation of parish and church increased, as a crisis of events. The Methodist Society was incorporated in 1811; the Calvinistic Society, in 1813. By legal technicalities the majority of the church retained the church temporalities and records. The majority claimed to be the ancient church, holding "that a church is a distinct body from the parish, independent of it for its existence and exercise of its rights." The claim was sustained by the church councils, but was overruled by the court.

At the famous trial on the general issue subsequently before the Supreme Court at Barnstable, by Chief-Justice Parsons, the matter was settled according to the decision of the court.

Members and friends of the Conference assembled to-day, we congratulate you on the successful work thus far performed under our Christian organization. Gov. Winslow wisely sanctioned and instituted the grand movement in Sandwich, two centuries ago, which we have but furthered as loyal descendants of Puritan ancestry. To the ladies of this Conference, in particular, we owe more than words can express. Their zeal and example have made certain our success. In

fact, we could never have reached any thing like the present result of things without their sympathy, their deeper social and religious contributions, their culture and refined sensibilities. There is, we believe, no better educator in the Church, no greater reformer in the land, than woman.

As regards Unitarian principles, "those who deny to this sect the name of Christian show only their want of acquaintance with its writing and its preaching. It is very easy to make the charge of infidelity against a religious body, but to intelligent minds those who make this charge only exhibit their own want of charity or knowledge. Men do not build churches, hold public worship, support ministers, and spend money in works which look exactly like Christian works, and are just what other churches do which call themselves Christians, while all the time they are infidels or atheists. There are some absurdities so patent that they refute themselves, and bring confusion upon their prophets; and to say that Unitarians, who have churches in America and England and France and Holland and Switzerland and Germany and Austria, and have had them for hundreds of years, who pray in Christ's name and sing hymns in his honor, and commend his example, and repeat his characteristic works, — to say that a sect of this kind is not 'Christian,' is one of the absurdities that would be incredible if men were not foolish enough to utter it. A similar utterance was that of those Pharisees who ventured to say that Jesus could not be a prophet of God, because he did not keep the sabbath day in their fashion. More sensible men at once answered them that the acts of the healer and the words of the teacher proved sufficiently that he was a prophet from God. There were 'blind leaders of the blind' in Judæa eighteen hundred years ago, and there are blind leaders of the blind in our time. And there are no persons whom these words of Jesus more accurately describe than those who deny the Christian name to a religious body of whose ideas and principles they are ignorant, which they take no pains to know, and who

only care to foster the illusion of those who know as little of it as themselves.

"Now, no church has principles more distinctly defined, more universally admitted, than the Unitarian Church. The Episcopalian or Presbyterian or Baptist or Methodist bodies cannot be surer of their ideas than the Unitarian. There are certain principles on which all our churches, all our ministers, all our men and women, are agreed, which all and our body recognize and magnify. The first of these principles is the grand Protestant principle of the right of private judgment. A second principle is, that no one can be required or expected to believe contrary to reason. A third is, that no man is infallible. A fourth is, that no creed can contain the whole of our religion. A fifth principle of the Unitarian Church is, that sincere faith is the only true faith. A sixth and last principle is, that character is better than profession of any kind, and that profession without character is good for nothing. The character of a man tells what he really believes, better than his words can tell this.

"The acts of a man, his general tone of thought and habits of life, are the expression of his real creed. We look for his belief at what he is, and not what he says he is. We ask for better proof than any declarations specially made. The creed is written in the life, and the world reads it from the man's life."

VALEDICTORY.

TO THE PATRONS OF THE BARNSTABLE "PATRIOT."

THE connection of the subscriber with this journal — a connection dating from its origin — closes with this present number [Jan. 26, 1869].

It is with no ordinary emotion that we say thus much. Forty years ago, save one, we were led to believe that the time had come for establishing here an INDEPENDENT JOURNAL; one devoted to the interests of this peculiar locality, Cape Cod, — her mercantile, fishing, and the less paramount, though still of important consideration, agricultural and manufacturing interests; and above all, at that time, the free discussion, by her sects and parties, of religion and politics. Against this last, the only channel of public communication within her limits was then closed. Though discouraged in the attempt by our best friends, — who with us felt the need, but had little faith in our ability, and feared for our failure, — we launched our bark with determination and trust, and flung out our flag of "Free Trade and Sailor's Rights," "Free Discussion" to all parties and every interest and sect, and invited all hands to come on board.

Though obliged to contend against weighty and angry odds, we made steady headway from the first; and increasing confidence in ourself was warranted by the public goodwill which gathered to our aid, and cheered us on to what, years ago, we counted as absolute success. But the vicissitudes of such a career! how great and how varied! How gratifying and joyous, how sad, — oh, sometimes how sad! — even amidst success, is the forty years' life of an editor

and publisher in its current passing! how indescribable the retrospect from its close! But the friendships we have made and enjoyed through our regular calling, they have been and remain a host, thank God! The opponents political, with whom we have exchanged the common, and sometimes uncommon, severities of our profession, we believe, with very few, and those very insignificant, exceptions, have left nothing rankling to disturb their good-will towards us; and as for the little enmities that may be still cherished by any, they shall not disturb us. We grant a "general amnesty" to all.

What shall we say for those who, from the first, have so nobly stood by us, in all parts of the county, helping us continually with their patronage and their generous favors, as if they would every day say to us, "Go on, God prosper you"? They are many, and they have our hearty thanks.

Those who have still more nearly and more constantly — some of them in our earlier, and some in years later — stood by and been as our right hand to us in our arduous duties, — of these, one, the nearest and dearest, to whom we could always turn, and on whom we could ever rely for editorial aid and personal counsel, has fallen from our side by the way, leaving us the loveliest example of a good life and an ever-pleasant memory. Others still remain, and long may they, with life's best blessings around them, to receive our constant, heartfelt gratitude.

We can but glance at the changes made by the lapse of the period we speak of, in the affairs of the community around us and in the large public circle. The second-hand press and old font of type with which we published the first "Patriot," *loaned* us by our old master, the Hon. Nathan Hale of blessed memory, were brought to us by packet from Boston; and our paper to print upon, the first winter, was transported therefrom upon stage-coach top. The railroad, years ago, supplanted both packet and stage-coach. In our first number the necessity for a marine railway across Cape Cod at Hyannis, or a canal at Buzzard's Bay, was seriously discussed.

Now the daily steam freight and packet coasters around the Cape have put to rest all projects for crossing lots. The increase in navigation and in thrift of our towns and villages; the improvement in agriculture; the great change in the system of education, and the earnest public interest awakened to it, — these all have had our constant advocacy. And may we not claim that in the enlightenment of the public sentiment, the diffusion of liberal ideas, the softening of religious asperities, and the inculcation of Democratic principles in the county, the "Patriot" has been pre-eminently a pioneer and co-worker?

In the cause of our country, in contest with her foreign foe, or, later, in that for her own unity and integrity, the "Patriot" was ever true to its name and its professions. And to the Democratic principles of government it has given constant support with all the efficiency it could command.

With the editorial fraternity, far and wide, we have, with scarcely an exception, ever been on the pleasantest terms, and secured their constant courtesy and gratifying encouragement. To them we would extend our parting thankfulness in sincerity. And, patrons of the "Patriot," ever so ready with your support, your good wishes, and your sympathies, we cannot adequately express to you the mingled emotions of gratitude and regret with which we take our leave of these columns, the common ground on which we have weekly met for so long a portion of our lifetime. God grant that our recollections of the past may be mutually agreeable, altogether, during the remainder of our lives!

Our successors are not strangers to the county nor to their business, and we are gratified in the belief that they have ability and determination to continue the "Patriot" — what we have ever endeavored to make it — a valuable commercial and family newspaper, still the advocate of good morals, always open to religious toleration. That the new editors and proprietors will have the best interests of the community

at heart, and that, in their hands, the righteous cause of Democratic conservatism will never suffer; thus believing, we hopefully invite your continual patronage to the "Patriot," trusting in the future you will find it even more acceptable and useful than hitherto.

S. B. PHINNEY.

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